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PARENTAL ADVISORY
HERE IS GREENWOOD is rated T+ for Older Teen. Recommended for ages 16 and up.
This volume contains suggestive situations.

THE THINKER

Here is Greenwood Guide to Honorifics

"Sempai"

Used to address more senior members of an organization. In a school, students in grades higher than the speaker are addressed as (their name here)-*sempai*. The honorific used to address students in lower grades is *kohai*. These honorifics are used in many other Japanese institutions, such as company offices.

"Sempai/kohai relationship"

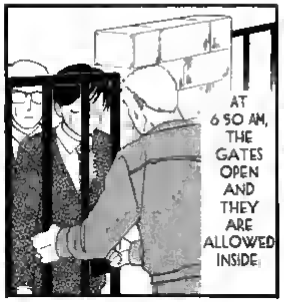
Since *Here is Greenwood* takes place in a school, the *sempai/kohai* relationship is a crucial aspect of the lives of the students. It is much like a Western mentor/protegé relationship, but on a school-wide scale. *Sempai*, the senior students, are expected to look after the interests of their *kohai* and guide them: help them with their problems, give them referrals, and be their counselors. *Kohai* are expected to respect their *sempai*, do chores or menial tasks, follow orders, and learn.

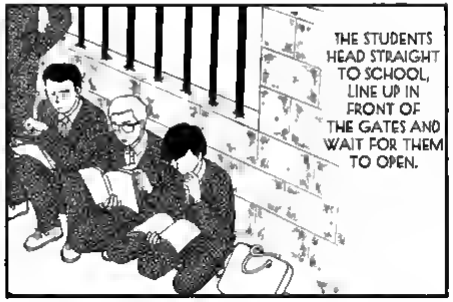
Diminutives and nicknames

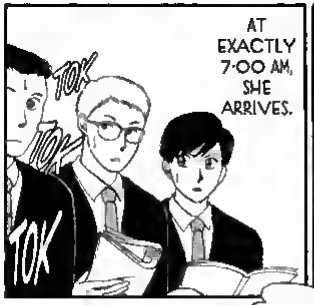
Like western nicknames, most Japanese nicknames are shortened versions of full names, sometimes with the honorific *chan* or *-kun* tacked at the end. Sumire calls her husband "Hiro-kun," shortened from Kazuhiro-kun; similarly she calls her brother-in-law "Yakkun," shortened and slightly changed from Kazuya-kun. "Suka-chan" (pronounced ska-chahn) is a similar diminutive taken from Hasukawa, except that the word "suka" is also a not so-common insult approximately equivalent to "baka" (fool).

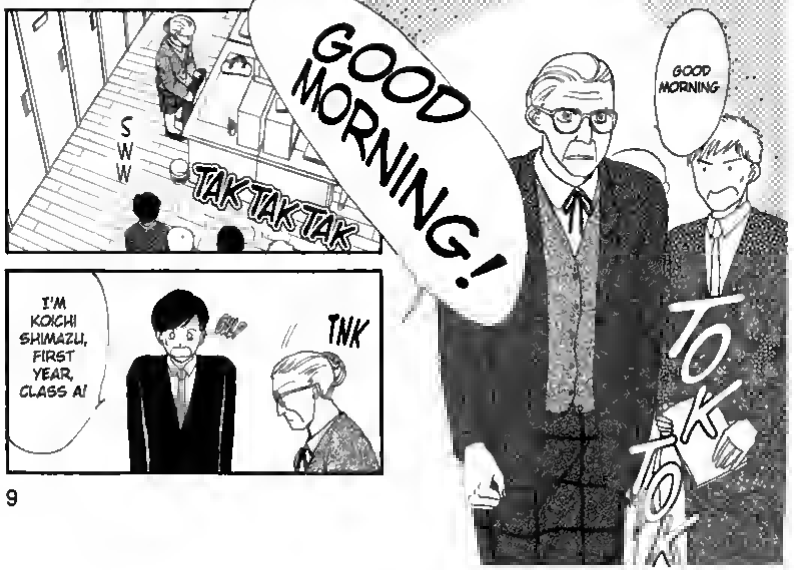
—William Flanagan

THE THINKER



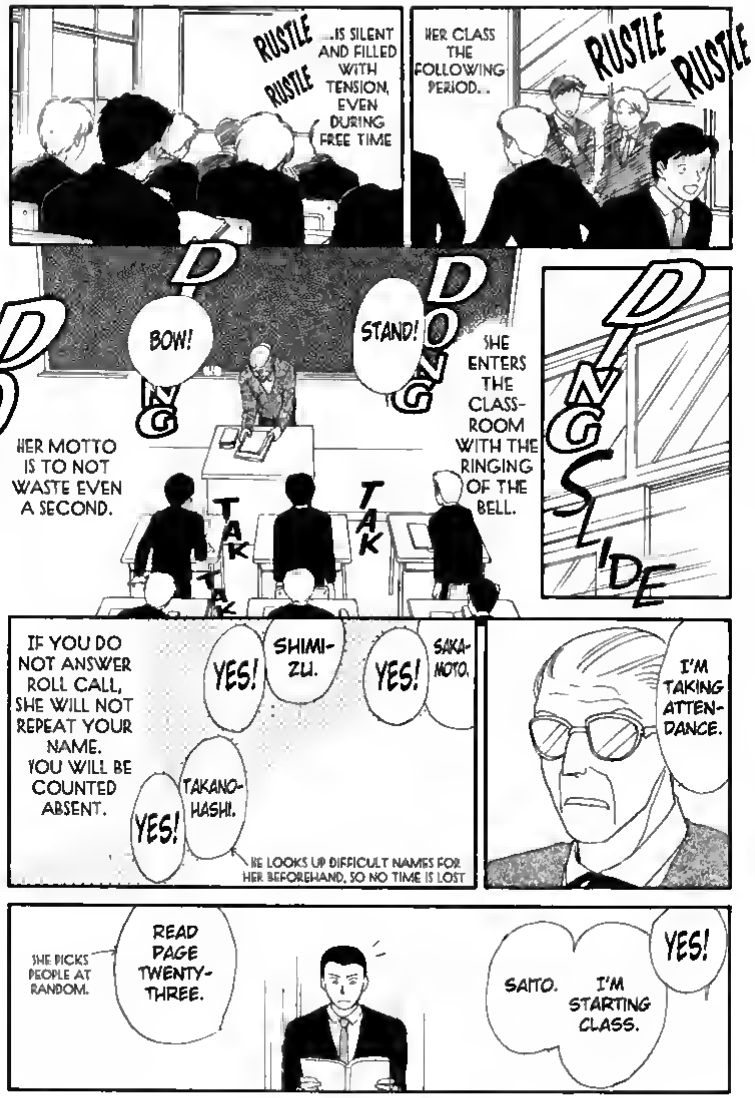


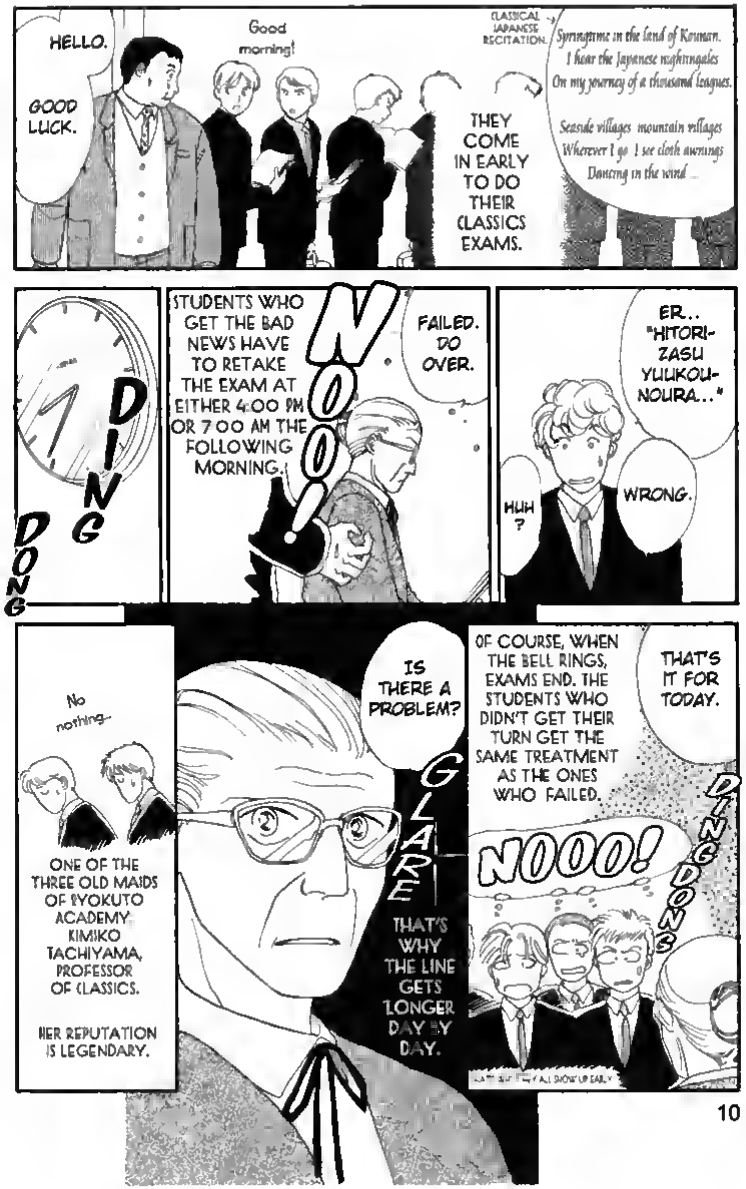




THUD
THUD
THUD
GAH!
ARE YOU LEAVING ALREADY? YOU'RE TOO EARLY!
MOST OF THESE ARE FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO HAVEN'T YET ADJUSTED TO HIGH SCHOOL LIFE.
THEIR NUMBERS GROW DAY BY DAY.
YOU'RE TOO SLOW!

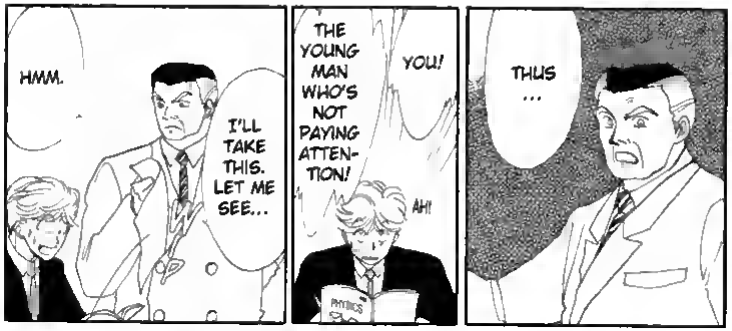
?BASEBALL PLAYERS BACK FROM MORNING PRACTICE.


RUSTLE
RUSTLE
...IS SILENT AND FILLED WITH TENSION, EVEN DURING FREE TIME
HER CLASS THE FOLLOWING PERIOD..
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
DONG
DING
BOW!
STAND!
DONG
HER MOTTO IS TO NOT WASTE EVEN A SECOND.
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
SHE ENTERS THE CLASS-ROOM WITH THE RINGING OF THE BELL.
DINGSLIDE
IF YOU DO NOT ANSWER ROLL CALL, SHE WILL NOT REPEAT YOUR NAME. YOU WILL BE COUNTED ABSENT.
YES!
SHIMI-ZU.
YES!
SAKA-MOTO.
YES!
TAKANO-HASHI.
HE LOOKS UP DIFFICULT NAMES FOR HER BEFOREHAND, SO NO TIME IS LOST
I'M TAKING ATTEN-DANCE.
SHE PICKS PEOPLE AT RANDOM.
READ PAGE TWENTY-THREE.
SAITO. I'M STARTING CLASS.
YES!

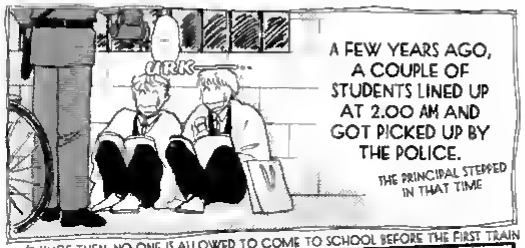

HELLO.
GOOD LUCK.
Good morning!
CLASSICAL JAPANESE RECITATION.
Springtime in the land of Kounan.
I hear the Japanese nightingales
On my journey of a thousand leagues.
Seaside villages mountain villages
Wherever I go I see cloth awnings
Dancing in the wind ...
THEY COME IN EARLY TO DO THEIR CLASSICS EXAMS.
DING
DONG
STUDENTS WHO GET THE BAD NEWS HAVE TO RETAKE THE EXAM AT EITHER 4:00 PM OR 7:00 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING.
NOO!
FAILED. DO OVER.
ER.. "HITORI-ZASU YUUKOU-NOURA..."
HUH?
WRONG.
No nothing.
ONE OF THE THREE OLD MAIDS OF RYOKUTO ACADEMY, KIMIKO TACHIYAMA, PROFESSOR OF CLASSICS.
HER REPUTATION IS LEGENDARY.
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
GLARE
THAT'S WHY THE LINE GETS LONGER DAY BY DAY.
OF COURSE, WHEN THE BELL RINGS, EXAMS END. THE STUDENTS WHO DIDN'T GET THEIR TURN GET THE SAME TREATMENT AS THE ONES WHO FAILED.
THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
NOOO!
DING DONG

I CAN'T TAKE AN ENTIRE YEAR OF THIS!
BUT WE JUST FINISHED OUR ENTRANCE EXAMS! WHY MUST WE CONTINUE TO SUFFER?
WHAAAT?
OH, AND IF YOUR FINAL GRADE IN CLASSICS IS A FAILING GRADE, YOU'RE HELD BACK A YEAR.
No retaking the exam.
No summer school.
BELIEVE IT.
YOUR GRADES WILL GO UP, LIKE IT OR NOT.
CHILL OUT. THERE'S NO WAY TO FAIL HER CLASS.
HOW COULD ANYONE BE GRATEFUL TO HER? THAT'S CRAZY!
I'M SO PISSED OFF AT THAT SMUG, SARCASTIC WITCH!
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE MAKING JOKES!
SLAM
BY THE END OF THE YEAR, YOU GUYS WILL BE FEELING GRATEFUL TOWARDS HER.

IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE, YOU HAVE TO REDO IT LATER, SO THE STUDENTS TAKE RECITATION SERIOUSLY.
KOU, FUU, AND CHUU.
WAKU, WHAT ARE THE RHYMING SYLLABLES?
SHICHI-GON ZEKKU.
OOTSUKA. WHAT IS THIS POETIC FORMAT?
...800 temples remain in the city of Nanchou. These temples are misty in the fog from the spring rain
SHE DOES NOT ALLOW CONVERSATION DURING HER CLASS, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.
SLUMP~
I'M GIVING BACK YOUR LAST EXAM. IF YOU FAILED, MAKE SURE YOU RETAKE IT BEFORE THE NEXT CLASS.
That's all.
THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
CLASS ENDS THE MINUTE THE BELL RINGS
DING DONG DING
BUT ...
WHEW!
AND SHE'LL LECTURE THEM ON WHY THEY'D MAKE A KID WHO HAS NO WILL TO LEARN GO TO SCHOOL.
WHAT?
GET THIS, FIRST YEARS.
IF YOU FAIL THREE TIMES IN A ROW, SHE'LL CALL YOUR PARENTS. ♡

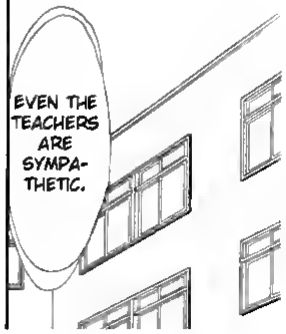

HMM.
I'LL TAKE THIS. LET ME SEE...
THE YOUNG MAN WHO'S NOT PAYING ATTENTION!
YOU!
AH!
PHYSICS
THUS ...

HERE!
FINE, THEN.
FLIP
HEH
DO YOU HAVE PROFESSOR TACHIYAMA NEXT?


A FEW YEARS AGO, A COUPLE OF STUDENTS LINED UP AT 2.00 AM AND GOT PICKED UP BY THE POLICE.
THE PRINCIPAL STEPPED IN THAT TIME
SINCE THEN NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO COME TO SCHOOL BEFORE THE FIRST TRAIN

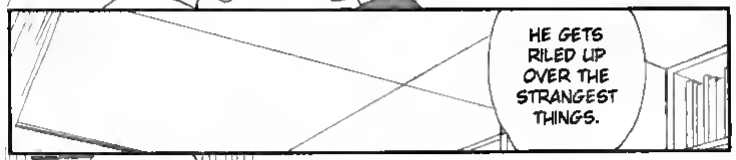
BUT THIS CLASS IS PHYSICS...
...SO PUT IT AWAY FOR NOW.

NO ONE'S WILLING TO STAND UP TO HER.
IT'S NOT REALLY TACHIYAMA'S FAULT.
SHE'S BEEN AT THIS SCHOOL FOREVER.


EVEN THE TEACHERS ARE SYMPA-THETIC.

DO YOU KNOW HOW FREE WE'D BE WITHOUT HER? I WISH SHE'D KEEL OVER AND DIE!
WHY DO WE HAVE TO WAKE UP AND GO TO CLASS AT SEVEN IN THE MORNING, FOR STARTERS? WHAT DOES SHE THINK OUR LIVES ARE FOR? WE DON'T LIVE FOR CLASSICS!

EVERYONE THINKS THAT AT SOME POINT.
THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA.
THAT'S ...
ER..


HE GETS RILED UP OVER THE STRANGEST THINGS.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T COMMAND HIS RESPECT.
WHOA
I GUESS.
BUT HE'S ALWAYS STARTING STUFF WITH ME.
HE'S NOT A SHORT-TEMPERED GUY, THOUGH.
I THINK IT'S JUST A QUIRK OF HIS.

I SEE.
WELL ?
HE STOOD UP TO TACHIYAMA!
REALLY ?
BETWEEN OUR WORK HERE AND THE HOMEWORK FOR ALL OUR OTHER CLASSES, WE HAVE TO STUDY ALL DAY JUST TO KEEP UP!
I DON'T THINK SCHOOL SHOULD BE A PLACE JUST FOR STUDY.
WELL ...
WHAT EXACTLY DID NOYAMA SAY?
BESIDES, WE WANT TO LEARN THINGS FROM YOU THAT AREN'T ON THE SYLLABUS. WE'D LIKE YOU TO ACT MORE HUMAN AND GET TO KNOW US BETTER AS WELL.
THANKS TO YOU, WE BASICALLY HAVE NO LIVES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL!
Keep talking! Keep talking!
Go, Noyama!

THEY'RE ALL SPINELESS.
NO ENEMIES WHATSOEVER!
SHE ACTS LIKE THAT BECAUSE EVERYONE LETS HER.
I'LL SHOW HER... AND EAT UP HER PRECIOUS CLASSROOM TIME WHILE I'M AT IT.
1-D
TAK
CLASS HAS BEGUN.
PROFESSOR!
I WANT YOU TO HEAR ME OUT!
DID YOU HEAR WHAT NOYAMA FROM CLASS D DID?
HEY!

NOYAMA.
IF YOU'RE DONE, GO TO THE HALL AND SIT THERE.
I TEACH CLASSICS, SO IT IS MY JOB TO ENSURE THAT ALL OF YOU LEARN CLASSICAL LITERATURE.
YOU CAME TO HIGH SCHOOL TO LEARN. I BELIEVE LEARNING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE.
WHAT? WHY?
AREN'T STUDENTS ALLOWED TO VOICE THEIR OPINIONS TO TEACHERS?
IF YOU WANT TO LEARN OTHER THINGS, DO SO AT HOME OR OUT IN THE REAL WORLD.
SO TACHIYAMA WON IN THE END.
IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO DO SO DURING CLASS TIME.
SOMEONE DOES IT EVERY COUPLE OF YEARS.
WHAT?
AND ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS, SOMEONE IS SEEN THROUGH CLASS.
I DID THAT MY FIRST YEAR.
WORD FOR WORD.
WAS IT THE SAME SPEECH?
?

SCHOOL ...
...IS A PLACE OF LEARNING.
SCHOOL HAS CLASSES.
YOU NEED TIME TO PREPARE FOR THOSE CLASSES.
BUT YOUR HOME-WORK..
YOU ALSO NEED TIME TO CLEAN THE CLASS-ROOMS YOU USE.
WHAT YOU DO OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL IS YOUR OWN BUSINESS
YOU HAVE NO TIME TO DO *ANYTHING* ELSE BUT LEARN.
YOU SPEND APPROXIMATELY EIGHT HOURS IN SCHOOL.
OF THE REMAINING SIXTEEN HOURS, I REQUIRE ONLY FOUR FOR HOMEWORK. PUTTING ASIDE EIGHT HOURS FOR SLEEP AND TWO HOURS FOR BATHING AND EATING...
IT WOULD PLEASE ME IF YOU STUDIED FOR SIX HOURS EVERY DAY.
...WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THE REMAINING SIX HOURS?

TOMO-MICHI?
THEY'RE NOT SUPPORTIVE AT ALL.
EVEN THE SEMPAI CREW BACKS DOWN AGAINST TERRIBLE TEACHERS.
...
FINE FOR YOU! EVEN IF YOU GET STUCK WITH HER, YOU'RE A FOREIGNER. SHE'LL GO EASY ON YOU IF YOU CAN'T READ ARCHAIC JAPANESE.
THE TEACHER HAS A POINT.
↑ LOGICAL
I DON'T THINK IT'S GOOD TO SKIP CLASS.
I'M SURE HE'S NOT A BAD GUY...
...BUT HE BLURTS OUT WHATEVER'S ON HIS MIND WITHOUT THINKING.
It's okay. Don't let it bother you
HE SAID ALL THAT TO YOU?
I'M TAKING ATTENDANCE.
1-D
PEOPLE WITH NO WILL TO LEARN SHOULDN'T BE IN SCHOOL? WHATEVER!
IT'S MORE THAN A MAN CAN BEAR!
I MIGHT HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS FOR THREE YEARS!
SLAM

KEEP IT UP, NOYAMA!
YOU CAN DO IT!
NOT UNTIL SHE GIVES IN.
YEEK
I WON'T ASK YOU GUYS TO BOYCOTT WITH ME.
I'M NOT TAKING HER CLASS ANYMORE.
TWITCH TWITCH
MY PARENTS WILL BACK ME UP!
SHE'S JUST DOING THIS BECAUSE SHE THINKS I'M A KID.
IF I STICK IT OUT, SHE'LL HAVE TO GIVE IN.
FINE! LET THEM CALL!
BUT IF YOU SKIP CLASS THREE TIMES, THEY'LL CALL YOUR PARENTS.
Yeah
Let's go
TAK TAK
SCURRY
I'M GOING TO GET DINNER.
HMM...
GIVE IT A TRY, THEN.

SHAAA
SHE'D DO IT.
CAN SHE DO THAT?
SHE'D BAR A GUY FROM CLASS ?
SHE'S NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING.
I THOUGHT IT WAS MADE OF IRON!
WHAT !?
TACHIYAMA HAS A BAD HEART.
I HEARD SOMETHING SCARY.
Wanna hear?
REALLY ?
THAT'S NOT THE ONLY THING THAT'S SCARY.
APPAR-ENTLY, SHE WAS SHAKING WHILE TEACHING CLASS G YESTER-DAY.
BRR BRR BRR

HASHI-GUCHI.
YES!
NOYAMA.
DOES SHE HONESTLY THINK THAT'S GOING TO FLY NOW?
SPLASH
NOYAMA, ARE YOU REALLY BOYCOTTING TACHIYAMA'S CLASS?
SPLASH
NOTHING YET.
WHAT DID TACHIYAMA SAY?
WOW.
☆NOYAMA
YUP! TOMORROW WILL BE MY SECOND DAY OFF.
...BUT WE'LL SEE WHO GIVES IN FIRST.
MY HOME-ROOM TEACHER HAD A WORD WITH ME ...
IF YOU DON'T GIVE IN AND SHOW HER YOU WANT TO LEARN, SHE WON'T LET YOU BACK IN CLASS. AND YOU NEED THAT CLASS TO ADVANCE TO THE NEXT YEAR.
SHAA
YOU'LL PROBABLY GET EXPELLED, BUT FIRST SHE'LL CALL YOUR PARENTS THEY'LL HEAR FROM HER AFTER YOUR THIRD DAY MISSING.
☆FIRST YEARS.
YEAH, YOU SHOULDN'T DO THIS.
NO WAY WILL YOU BEAT HER.
☆THIRD YEARS.
I REALLY DOUBT SHE'LL GIVE IN, THOUGH.

DING DONG
DING DONG
She is scary-looking...
WHY DO I HAVE TO STAND OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB?
HE STUDIES IN THE LIBRARY DURING TACHIYAMA'S CLASSES.
THEY AGREE SHE DRIVES THEM NUTS...
...SO WHY WON'T THEY DO ANYTHING?
OH, WELL... WHERE SHOULD I GO AND...
HUH?
Closed today
Library committee
SHE MAY BE SCARY, BUT SHE'S ONLY A TEACHER.
PROFES-SOR! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DASH
HFF HFF
HFF HFF
PRO-FESSOR!?
PRO-FESSOR!
WHAT'S WRONG? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

NO WAY!
WHO'S THE IDIOT WHO MARRIED HER?
SHE HAS A DAUGHTER, TOO! IN HIGH SCHOOL!
TO MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T COLLAPSE ON THE TRAIN...
...HER HUSBAND DRIVES HER TO SCHOOL EVERY MORNING.
That's him. Noyama from class D
SOMETHING'S ...
WE'D ALL BE HAPPIER IF SHE STAYED HOME AND RESTED!
AND SHE GOES THROUGH ALL THAT JUST TO SHOW UP HERE AT 7:00 AM?
SLAM
SOMETHING'S WRONG.
THE PROFESSORS AND UPPERCLASS-MEN WON'T SUPPORT ME.

YOU KNOW ...
OH ...
NOYAMA, A FIRST YEAR STUDENT, FOUND YOU.
THEY'RE TOO STUDIOUS.
Swing!
Oh no!
...THAT THE STUDENTS HERE BECAME BORING.
...IT WAS AROUND YOUR TIME...
DON'T TALK THAT WAY. PROFESSOR, PLEASE STAY AT OUR SCHOOL.
You sound so sadistic when you say that.
THEY CAN FOLLOW MY CLASS NOW.
WEEOO
WEEOO
WEEOO
WEEOO
YOU'RE ESSENTIAL TO RYOKUTO.
THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL! WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE CHAPTER ONE!

YES, SIR!
YOU! GO TO THE INFIRMARY!
TACHIYAMA FAINTED!
IT'S PASSED.
I'M FINE NOW.
PLEASE GO ALONG WITH THEM.
GOOD, BUT I'VE ALREADY CALLED AN AMBULANCE.
DOES THAT MEAN ...
NO WORK
SO...
...PROFESSOR TACHIYAMA LEFT ME THESE PRINTOUTS. PLEASE FINISH THEM TODAY.
DOOM

LOOK, JUST APOLOGIZE AND TELL HER YOU'LL GO TO CLASS!
WHEN SHE SAYS SOMETHING, SHE MEANS IT! IT'S NOT AN EMPTY THREAT!
OTHERWISE YOU WON'T GET A GRADE!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO IT! DID SHE CALL YOUR PARENTS?
WHAT? YOU SKIPPED HER CLASS THREE TIMES?
NOW I GET IT!
I GET IT.
SEMPAI!
HER IDEALS AND CONVICTIONS MAKE HER STRONGER THAN ANYONE.
...BUT YOU REALLY LIKE TACHIYAMA, DON'T YOU?
YOU GUYS GRIPE ABOUT HER...
EVERYONE LIKES HER.
WHEN I CAME BACK, I WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU WERE STILL TEACHING.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
YEAH!

I HAVE TO ADMIT, THE OLD LADY'S GOT SOME GUTS.
HEY, NOYAMA!
MOM? IT'S ME.
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
WHAT DO YOU...
N...
SOMEONE FROM YOUR HOUSE CALLED.
NOYAMA!
I HEARD YOU CARRIED TACHIYAMA!
TAKE A DAY OFF, YOU OLD BAT!
BUT ...
NO WAY! TODAY WAS MY THIRD DAY OF HOOKY!
...SHE HAD A HEART ATTACK TODAY!
SHE'S DOING FINE.
HOW WAS SHE FEELING?
YEAH?
I swear! Yeah!
No I know!

A MAIDEN'S DREAM

LIKE COMRADES ON THE BATTLEFIELD, WE FIGHT TOGETHER AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY.
WHY DO THEY ACT SO COY?
THIS IS STUPID.
I FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT NOW.
THEY SHOULD'VE EXPLAINED THINGS IN THE BEGINNING.
BUT ...
...IT'S KIND OF CHEESY TO SAY YOU ADMIRE A TEACHER...
I knew it
OH, WHATEVER.
TOMOMICH WENT BACK TO CLASSICS AND RECEIVED A TON OF WORK.
AFTER THE PARENTAL VISITATION...
...THE STUDENTS LINE UP IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL.
TO FIGHT HER... OR FIGHT FOR HER...
KIMIKO TACHIYAMA, PROFESSOR OF CLASSICS, IS THE MOST FEARED TEACHER AT RYOKUTO ACADEMY.
SHE'S NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU ANY SPECIAL TREATMENT BECAUSE YOU'RE A FOREIGNER.
...OR YOU'LL HAVE IT ROUGH NEXT YEAR.
YOU'D BETTER IMPROVE YOUR READING SKILLS NOW...

A MAIDEN'S DREAM

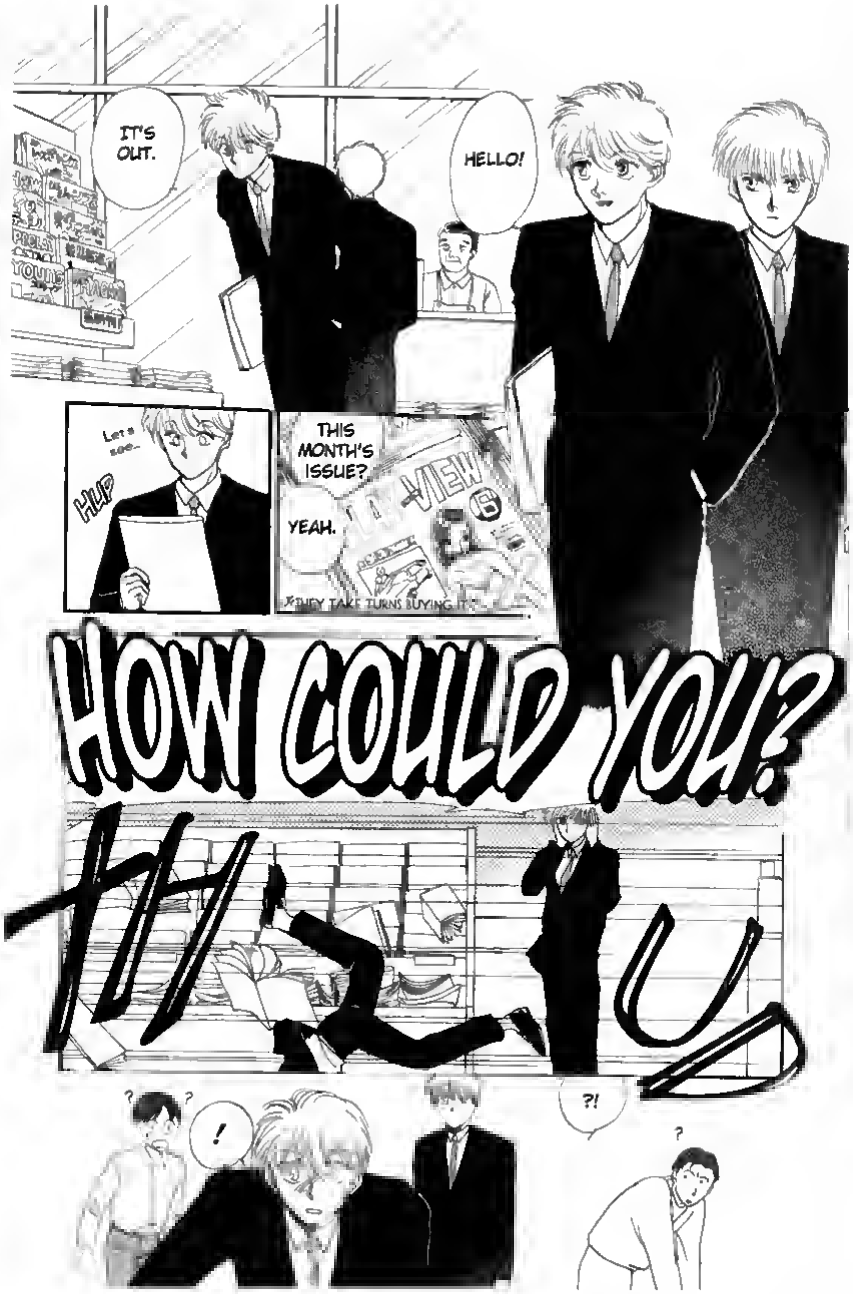
...
MIYA.
...THE ONLY THING I CAN SEE IS ...
HE'S GETTING BOLDER.
ALSO HIS MEMORY IS A BIT SKEWED FROM REALITY
WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES LIKE THIS...
SUKA-CHAN?
I SEE.
I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU'D BEEN OFF BY YOURSELF LATELY. SO THAT'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH YOU?
Yeah!
SPLASH
SEMPAI!
I STILL CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY HEAD!
YOU HAVE BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN.
竹の
HOW COULD YOU?
女
WAIT A MINUTE. ARE YOU TELLING ME MY LUCK IS WORSE THAN HIS?
IF MITSURU'S THE ONE TELLING YOU, IT'S GOTTA BE REALLY BAD.
YEAH!

Latte bathhouse scenes lately.
I hear there's one in the next chapter too.
BATH-HOUSES ARE GREAT.
I'm going to be one of those old guys who's always soaking.
IF IT WERE CHEAP, I'D COME EVERY DAY.
KLOD
SPLASH!
WE ALL HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE, AND WE ONLY GET TO STAY IN FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES.
THE BATHS AT THE DORMS ARE TOO SMALL.
TAKENO YU, A BATHHOUSE FREQUENTED BY DORM STUDENTS.
SIGH.
RIGHT, SUKA-CHAN?
WHEN YOU'RE TAKING A BATH, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO RELAX

POSSIBLY, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN HER.
SHE MIGHT JUST AS EASILY HAVE BEEN TALKING TO SHINOBU!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'D DO SOMETHING TO MAKE A GIRL SAY THAT.
SCARY!
HEY, NO NEED TO BE JEALOUS, GUYS.
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR MAKING GIRLS CRY.
Yeah, yeah.
WHAT-EVER.
YOU PLAYER.
WELL, IT'S NOT ME!
養言
BD
AS IF! EXCUSE ME!
TOK TOK TOK
JEALOUS? YEAH, RIGHT!
?
?
!UP, , THEY'RE ALL JEALOUS
Must've hit home.

I... I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE LIKE THAT ...
HOW COULD YOU?
HEY!
WHAT THE...
HUH ?
"HOW COULD YOU?"
WHAT WAS THAT?
GEE, WHO COULD IT BE?
SHE SAID, "HOW COULD YOU?" AND, "I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE LIKE THAT."
WAAAA
HOW COULD YOU!?
DAK

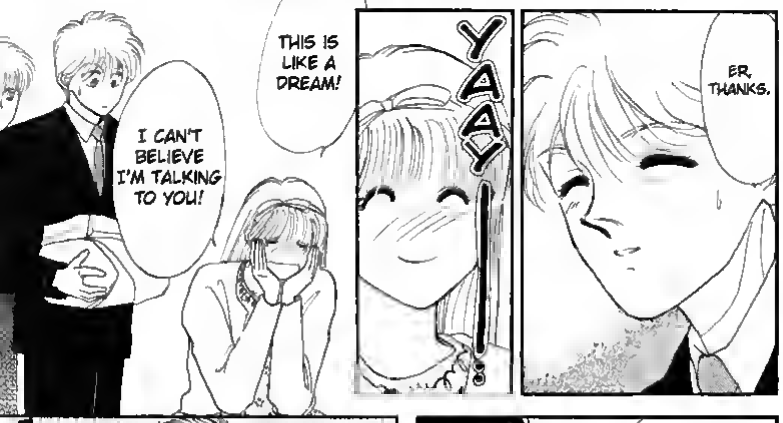
YOU'RE THE GIRL FROM YESTER-DAY.
AH!
HFF
HFF
HFF
I CAN'T TAKE IT!
W...
WAIT A MINUTE!
FWP
FWP
IT CAN'T BE...
IT CAN'T BE...
YOU'RE TERRIBLE!
BRRR
BRRR
BRRR


IT'S OUT.
HELLO!
Let's see...
HUP
THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?
YEAH.
VIEW
*THEY TAKE TURNS BUYING IT.
HOW COULD YOU?
!
?!
?

I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN!
I SAW YOU IN A TV COMMERCIAL.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVER SINCE!
OH, SO THAT'S IT.
WASN'T EXPECTING THAT ONE. IT WAS AGES AGO.
DO YOU ALWAYS READ THOSE FILTHY MAGA-ZINES?
ER...
WHEW
UM UM
PLEASE!
HUH?
YUP
THEY'RE HIS.
UM... WELL...
WELL, THAT'S ...

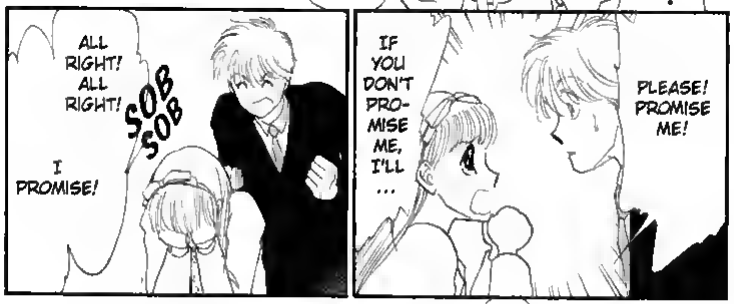
UH UH UH
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY?
...OOKS
...
AH
GET AHOLD OF...
WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
I KNEW IT.
UM ...
GRAB
BLUSH
WUP
YOU'RE HIM, RIGHT?
YOU'RE MITSURU IKEDA, RIGHT?

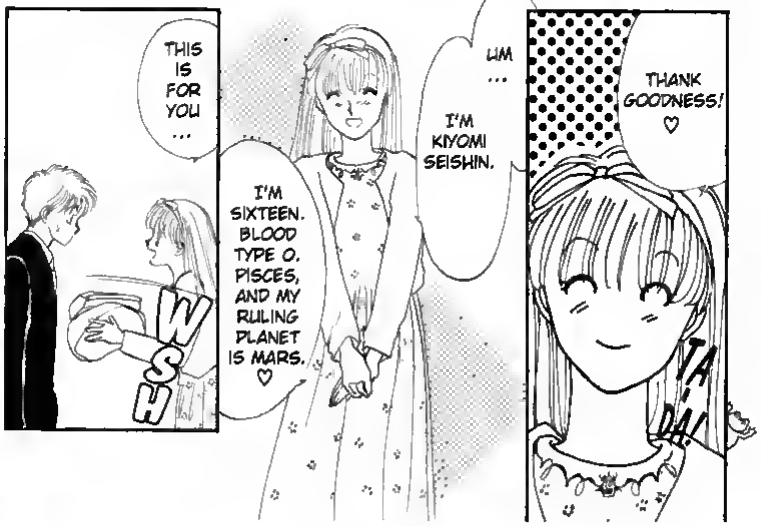
I WAS PLANNING TO GIVE IT TO YOU THEN, BUT I NEVER SAW YOU, SO I HELD ON TO IT.
IT'S A CHRISTMAS AND VALENTINE'S DAY PRESENT.


I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TALKING TO YOU!
THIS IS LIKE A DREAM!
YAY!
ER, THANKS.

ADAMANT!
WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
I'M INNOCENT!
SIGH
I CAN'T HELP IT! MITSURU'S SO GORGEOUS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

NOT LIKE HIM?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU, MITSURU!
SHIP
SHIP
DON'T EVER READ SUCH DEPRAVED SMUT AGAIN!


ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT!
SOB SOB
I PROMISE!
IF YOU DON'T PROMISE ME, I'LL ...
PLEASE! PROMISE ME!


THIS IS FOR YOU ...
WISH
UM ...
I'M KIYOMI SEISHIN.
I'M SIXTEEN. BLOOD TYPE O. PISCES, AND MY RULING PLANET IS MARS. ♡
THANK GOODNESS! ♡
TA-DA!

TRALALAA

HIS MISTRESS!

WHOA!

JUST DON'T SHATTER YOUR FANGIRL'S DREAMS.

I want my mistress to cut mine too.

CRICK

We never would've thought of that

Shinobu's amazing

SEE YA!

Yeah!

SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW.

So long!

SHE IMAGINED HIM BEING LIKE HIS CHARACTER ON TV. IN THE TIME SINCE THE THING AIRED, SHE'S MANAGED TO TOTALLY DELUDE HERSELF.

SHE GOT OBSESSED WITH MITSURU WHEN SHE SAW HIS COMMERCIAL.

BUT WHY'D SHE THROW A FIT OUT-SIDE THE BATHHOUSE?

SO, BASICALLY, SHE'S A FANGIRL.

I BET SHE'LL TELL HIM HE'S NOT ALLOWED TO GO TO THE BATHROOM.

SHE'LL PROBABLY CRY WHEN SHE SEES WHERE HER PRINCE LIVES.

YEAH, STALKER GIRLS ARE SCARY.

TOO BAD FOR HER!

PROBABLY BECAUSE HE WAS TAKING A PUBLIC BATH. MUST HAVE BEEN DISILLUSIONING.

DAK

WHO? HIS MOM?

A PRINCE WOULD MAKE SOMEONE ELSE DO IT.

THAT AIN'T A PRETTY SIGHT.

WRONG.

A MAID? A BUTLER?

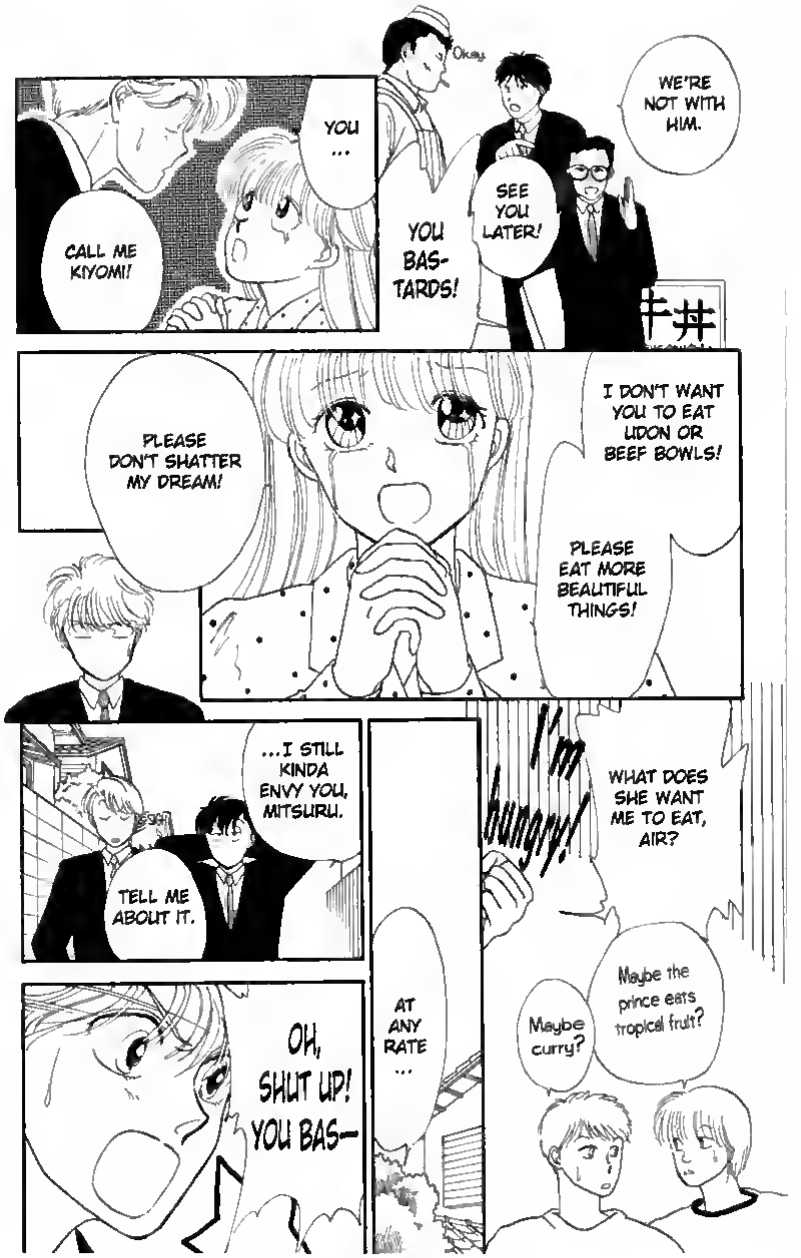
IF I DON'T, THEY'LL KEEP GROWING.

HEY, STOP CUTTING YOUR TOENAILS HERE!

THE UDON PLACE ISN'T GOING TO WORK.
LET'S GO SOME-WHERE ELSE.
THE PRINCE HAS A FAN!
WOW!
SNEAK SNEAK
What the..
NO!
the limp scallions and swirly fishcakes..
The slurping of the noodles and broth..
It's not beautiful at all
EWW EWW
HURRY! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
WELCOME! HOW MAY I HELP—
HOW ABOUT BEEF BOWLS?
HEY, YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH MY SHOP?
NOOO
NO, THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE ...
NOOO! DON'T GO IN THERE!
YANK
牛丼

LET'S GO TO THAT UDON NOODLE HOUSE.
WANNA GET SOMETHING, MITSURU?
I'M HUNGRY.
SOUNDS GOOD.
YIPES!
HOW COULD YOU?
MIT-SURU ...
YOU KNOW THIS GIRL?
...
NO, DON'T SLURP NOODLES WITH CHOPSTICKS! PLEASE?
WAAAAAA
KIYOMI!
HIC HIC

I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU SQUAT LIKE YOU'RE TAKING A DUMP!
NO! DON'T EAT GROCERY-STORE SAMPLES!
DON'T USE SUCH CRUDE LANGUAGE!
...
NO ONE CAN MATCH HIS BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN.
YOU ALWAYS GET THE WEIRDOES ...
JUST IGNORE HER.
YOU'RE A LOT CLOSER TO HER "PRINCE" THAN I AM.
SHINOBU?
CAN YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT HER?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU?
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!
PEOPLE THINK I'M ABUSING HER!
HOW COULD YOU?
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF SHE STARTED WAILING IN PUBLIC?

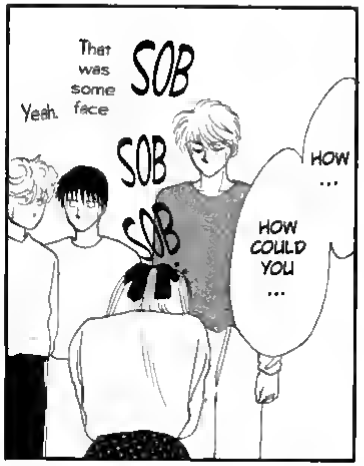

CALL ME KIYOMI!
YOU ...
Okay
YOU BAS-TARDS!
SEE YOU LATER!
WE'RE NOT WITH HIM.
PLEASE DON'T SHATTER MY DREAM!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO EAT UDON OR BEEF BOWLS!
PLEASE EAT MORE BEAUTIFUL THINGS!
...I STILL KINDA ENVY YOU, MITSURU.
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
OH, SHUT UP! YOU BAS—
AT ANY RATE ...
I'm hungry!
WHAT DOES SHE WANT ME TO EAT, AIR?
Maybe curry?
Maybe the prince eats tropical fruit?

HEH HEH HEH HEH
GREAT
YOU'VE GOT THAT RIGHT.
BECAUSE OF THAT GIRL, MITSURU'S STARVING.
IF HE FINDS OUT WE HAVE FOOD, HE'LL CLEAN US OUT.
WATCH IT.
I'LL TAKE THESE.
HOW COULD YOU?
MITSURU DOESN'T STEAL FOOD FROM OTHERS!
HOW COULD YOU?
DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
A PRINCE WOULDN'T DO THAT!
MAIS

WELL, YOU CAN'T JUST DO NOTHING.
HUH? I CAN'T HIT HER!
AT LEAST YOU COULD GET EVEN.
COAST IS CLEAR.
OKAY.
PEEK
WAIT A MINUTE!
THE MITSURU I LOVE ISN'T A SNEAKY GUY!
HOW COULD YOU?
THWAP
I JUST WANT YOU TO BE COOL ALL THE TIME!
NO ...
THIS ISN'T WORKING
WHY DO YOU INSIST ON SHATTERING A POOR GIRL'S DREAM?
HOW COULD YOU?
NO ONE LIKE THAT EXISTS ANY-WHERE!

SIGH
...
LISTEN.
HFF HFF
PEANUT GALLERY
WHY WON'T YOU STAY THE MITSURU I WANT YOU TO BE?
WHY ...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING. IT'S TOO DIFFICULT.
THE MITSURU IKEDA YOU LIKE ISN'T ME.
I'M NOT THE IDEAL MAN YOU'RE IMAGINING.
I REALLY ...
KIYOMI, I'M NOT THE MAN YOU THINK I AM.
I DIDN'T WANT TO USE THIS, BUT...
SHUTTER
I HAVE NO CHOICE.

OH... I CAN'T BELIEVE HE LIVES IN SUCH A RUN-DOWN HOVEL!
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?
THUD THUD THUD
WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS, MITSURU?
SHUP
TELL THE WORLD, WHY DON'T YOU?
NOO! DON'T WEAR BARGAIN-BIN SWEATPANTS!
NO! IT'S THE REAL MITSURU!
YOU'RE RAISING YOUR VOICE AT A LADY! THAT'S NOT THE MITSURU I KNOW!
WHO'S INSENSITIVE?
OH! HOW COULD YOU BE SO INSENSITIVE TOWARD A POOR GIRL?


That was some face
Yeah.
SOB
SOB
SOB
HOW ...
HOW COULD YOU ...

SOB
SOB
SOB

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S SO UGLY!
ARRGH
Don't tell me you're insulted.
I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY MET THE MAN OF MY DREAMS...

DASH
DON'T STOP ME! GOOD-BYE!
I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE EVER AGAIN...
THE MAN OF MY DREAMS DOESN'T EXIST...

WHOA
... LOOK LIKE THIS.

SORRY.
You need skill to make this face and talk. It's exhausting.
THE MITSURU IKEDA YOU IMAGINE DOESN'T EXIST.

SEMPAI! SEMPAI!
IS CAN ONLY DO IT FOR A FEW SECONDS.→
JUST GO HOME AND...

SHE'S OUT.
MUU
MUU

RETURN TO DEVILWOOD
(PART ONE)

WHO CARES ABOUT THAT?
I'M GETTING MY LIFE BACK!
IT'S HER DREAM.
She's the heroine!
SHE NEVER EVEN REALIZED WHAT A FREAK SHE IS.
Udon! Ramen! Beef bowls!
Yakisoba! Takoyaki! Natto! Stewed fish! Salted squid! Pickled plum! Oden! Monja! Fish eggs!
Good for you.
It's not good for any of us when Mitsuru's hungry.
A MAIDEN'S DREAM.
IT'S A LABYRINTH WITH NO EXIT.
NOW ...
WHICH DO YOU THINK IS BETTER? HAVING TONS OF CRAZY STALKERS OR FALLING IN LOVE BUT THE GIRL IS ALWAYS TAKEN?
I WORRY THAT THEIR BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN IS GOING TO RUB OFF ON ME.
THAT GIRL IS SCARY. SHE BELIEVES HER FANTASIES.
MAYBE SHE'S DRAWING DOUJINSHI MANGA.
...WHAT HAPPENED TO KIYOMI SEISHIN AFTER THAT?
What do you expect? She's young.
PSST
PSST
PSST
TAKATAKATAK TAKA
A MAIDEN'S DREAM - THE END

RETURN TO DEVILWOOD
(PART ONE)

PROLOGUE

A LONG, LONG TIME AGO...

...ON THE NIGHT OF A FULL MOON, A PRINCE WAS BORN TO A SMALL BUT BEAUTIFUL KINGDOM.

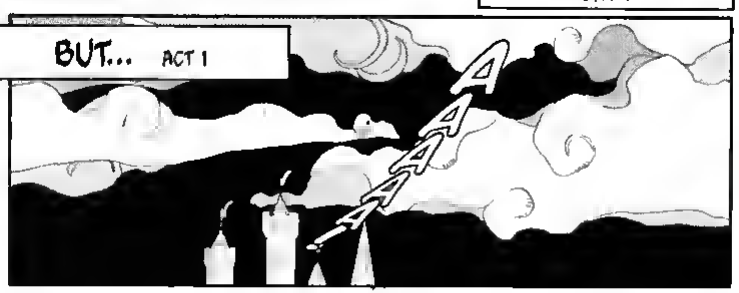
BUT THE PRINCE WAS ABDUCTED BY THE TERRIBLE DEMON KING AND CARRIED AWAY TO HIS FOREST.

THE PEOPLE WERE HELPLESS AND IN DESPAIR.

FINALLY, ONE YOUNG MAN TOOK UP ARMS AND DEFEATED THE DEMON KING, WITH THE HELP OF A TRAVELING HERO.

THE PEOPLE REJOICED, AND PEACE RETURNED TO THE LAND. THE HERO SET OFF ON ANOTHER JOURNEY, AND THE YOUNG MAN WAS GIVEN THE HAND OF THE PRINCESS IN MARRIAGE. AN ELABORATE WEDDING WAS HELD.

BUT... ACT 1



MY DEAR! HOW COULD WE FORGET?
OH!
COULD THIS BE THE WORK OF THE DEMON KING?
IT CAN'T BE! THE DEMON KING IS DEAD!
SOB SOB SOB
MY DEAR CHELSEA! WHY HAS THIS HAPPENED TO YOU?
YOUR MAJESTY!
CHELSEA HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BOY.
MY QUEEN... THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'M HEARING ABOUT THIS.
OH. LET ME EXPLAIN THINGS, THEN.
IF YOU BEAR A SON, A DEMON WILL SWEEP THE CHILD AWAY. ILL FORTUNE WILL BEFALL THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM.
THAT'S WHAT THEY TOLD ME.
WE SEE AN OMINOUS SHADOW LURKING OVER THIS MARRIAGE.
BEFORE I CAME TO MARRY YOU, I WENT TO MY KINGDOM'S ORACLES TO INQUIRE ABOUT OUR FUTURE.
CHELSEA!
WHAT'S WRONG, TINO?
BAM
IT CAME FROM PRINCESS CHELSEA'S BEDCHAMBER!
IT SOUNDED LIKE MASTER TINO
WHAT WAS THAT SCREAM JUST NOW?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THE PRINCESS . . . THE PRINCESS . . .
YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT!
YOUR HIGH-NESS!
HE'S RIGHT!
WHOA!
SHE TURNED INTO A MAN!

I SHOULD'VE ARRIVED AT A VILLAGE BY NOW! CURSE THAT SHOP OWNER!
THIS MAP HAS TO BE WRONG.
ACT 2
DAMN IT!
I'M STARVING!
I'M ALMOST OUT OF FUNDS.
I WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY BOUNTIES TO COLLECT AROUND HERE.
NO ONE'S GOING TO SAVE YOU, THIS DEEP IN THE FOREST!
HA HA HA!
SOMEONE HELP!
Help
me!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
HAND OVER YOUR VALUABLES!
Geez. I'm a bandit again.

THE YOUNGEST PRINCE.
AND THEN GUMI WAS BORN, TWELVE YEARS AFTER MILKY.
4 years
12 years
It's a beautiful baby girl!
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO RAISE OUR SON AS A GIRL IN SECRET.
But I was in love with His Majesty!
Couldn't you have just called off the wedding?
YOUR MAJESTY!
SO THAT'S THE STORY.
IT REALLY DID COME TRUE!
I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE PROPHECY!
Tino has escaped!
YOU WILL ACT AS CHELSEA'S HUSBAND FOR THE REST OF YOUR..
Hey!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
OUR WEDDING DOESN'T COUNT, RIGHT?
RIGHT?
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, WE CAN'T TELL THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY THAT THEIR PRINCESS WAS A PRINCE.
AND THE YOUNG MAN SET OFF ON ANOTHER JOURNEY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HEY, IT'S A GUY.
I'M CHUPI. I COME FROM THE VILLAGE AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN.
HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU?
ARE YOU HURT SOME-WHERE?
SLUMP
GET AHOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
I haven't eaten since yesterday either!
I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING SINCE YESTERDAY.
ACT 3
WELCOME!
INN
LOOK! SMOKE!
IT MIGHT BE A HOUSE! CAN YOU WALK?
YES ...

LET THAT KID GO!
WHO IS HE?
WHO CARES? LET'S GET HIM!
AS LONG AS WE HAVE LOVE!
THE HANDSOME MASKED KNIGHT PWATOLIN!
I swear a show like this existed
LET US FIGHT!
WHO GOES THERE ?
THANKS! YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR MY DINNER!
EXCUSE ME...
Nuts! I was going to steal their stuff!
WAIT!
WAAAAA
They ran for it!

ALL RIGHT.
OKAY, GO ON.
Whatever
IT'S A TRADITION IN OUR VILLAGE TO GIVE A JEWEL TO ONE'S FIANCÉE.
WELL, YEAH.
DID YOU SAY "HE"?
X IT'S NORMAL IN CHUPI'S VILLAGE
WAIT A MINUTE.
HE AND I WERE ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED.
LYONESS, MY LOVER, LIVED IN THE SAME VILLAGE AS I.
THE CAVE OF JEWELS?
SO HE SAID.
I'M GOING TO GO TO THE CAVE OF JEWELS TO GET A STONE FOR YOU.
BUT NEITHER OF US OWNED A JEWEL, NOR COULD WE AFFORD ONE.
THEN, ONE DAY ...
The market price is three months' salary.
I ASKED HIM NOT TO GO, BUT HE WOULDN'T LISTEN.
IT'S BEEN A YEAR SINCE HE LEFT...
BUT THE CAVE IS A LAIR OF MONSTERS, SO NO ONE GOES NEAR IT.
SUPPOSEDLY IT'S AN OLD CAVE FILLED WITH JEWELS.
THERE'S A LEGEND THAT IT EXISTS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN.

WHY ARE YOU WANDERING AROUND THIS DESOLATE PLACE BY YOURSELF?
YOU SAID YOUR NAME'S CHUPI, RIGHT?
OH, THAT.
EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE.
EVERY-ONE SAYS THAT.
HO HO HO
CHOMP CHOMP
I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE'S AN INN THIS DEEP IN THE WOODS.
KNIFE
KNIFE
YES, FOR A YEAR NOW.
MISSING?
I'M LOOKING FOR MY MISSING FIANCEE.
WIPE WIPE
WELL ...
WIPE WIPE
WHAT HAPPENED?
CALM DOWN!
LYONESS WENT INTO SUCH DANGER FOR ME, ALL ALONE!
IT'S MY FAULT!
WAAA

I WOULD ...

UM ...

HUH?

...CAN YOU PAY FOR THE MEAL?

...EVEN BEFORE I WAS ATTACKED BY THE BANDITS.

...BUT I SPENT ALL MY MONEY...

I'M PENNILESS.

YOU! TO THE KITCHEN!

YOU! GET OUT BACK AND CHOP WOOD! MARCH!

IF YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY, YOU'RE GOING TO WORK!

YOU DON'T KNOW HE'S DEAD YET, RIGHT?

THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO DOWN.

PAT

THE OTHER VILLAGERS TELL ME TO GIVE UP ON HIM...

...BUT THINKING ABOUT HOW HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR ME...

HUH?

MAY I JOIN YOUR QUEST?

COME ON

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I'D BE HAPPY WITH A JEWEL OR TWO FROM THAT CAVE.

I WON'T EVEN CHARGE YOU.

I'M A PRO AT THIS KIND OF STUFF.

TO BE HONEST, I WAS FEELING LOST. I WASN'T SURE WHAT TO DO NEXT.

YES, PLEASE!

I'M SURE I CAN BE HELPFUL.

ON ANOTHER NOTE...

YES!

IF WE HURRY, WE CAN REACH THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN BY DARK.

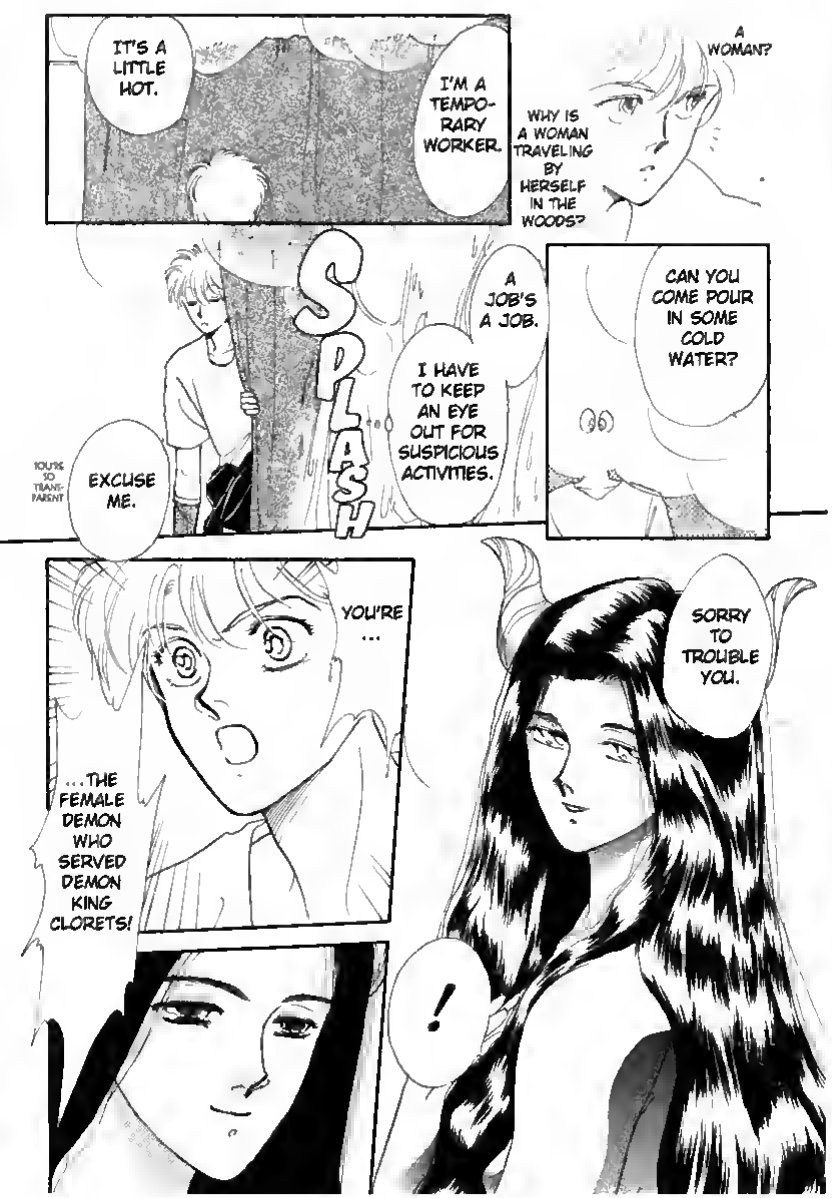
IN THAT CASE, WE SHOULD SET OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

OKAY!

THERE'S A MAN AFTER ME. I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO MY HOME COUNTRY.
I'd probably be put to death.
I SEE... SORRY ABOUT YOUR ROTTEN LUCK.

THEY GOT WHAT THEY HAD COMING. THEY WERE FAMOUS FOR THEIR EVIL DEEDS.
THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN LEFT ALONE FOR LONG.
I VISITED EVERY LAST ONE.
MOST HAD ALREADY BEEN KILLED BY OTHER HEROES.
HERB... SINCE LAST TIME...
...HAVE YOU KILLED ALL YOUR OLD EVIL NEIGHBORS?
YUP.
I'M GLAD ...
...I MADE IT IN TIME.
IF I HADN'T GOTTEN TO DEMON KING CLORETS WHEN I DID...
...YOU MIGHT HAVE KILLED HIM FOR ME.
Huh? No way!

APPARENTLY, THIS IS AN AREA WHERE TRAVELERS USUALLY RUN OUT OF FOOD.
I HEARD IT FROM A GUY WHO WAS HERE UNTIL TWO DAYS AGO.
YOU'RE WORKING FOR FREE, TOO?
SLAVE LABOR
Why am I doing this?
TINO! IS THAT YOU?
HUH?
It's cheaper than hiring staff
THE INNKEEPER TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THAT. SHE FEEDS TRAVELERS, THEN MAKES THEM WORK OFF THE DEBT.
SWOOSH
HUH? ARE YOU ...
C-CALM DOWN! WHAT HAP-PENED?
THAT WAS YOUR FAULT! IF YOU HADN'T RUN AWAY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I THOUGHT YOU MARRIED THE PRINCESS...
HERB?


IT'S A LITTLE HOT.
I'M A TEMPORARY WORKER.
A WOMAN?
WHY IS A WOMAN TRAVELING BY HERSELF IN THE WOODS?
SPLASH
A JOB'S A JOB.
I HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES.
CAN YOU COME POUR IN SOME COLD WATER?
YOU'RE SO TRANSPARENT
EXCUSE ME.
YOU'RE ...
...THE FEMALE DEMON WHO SERVED DEMON KING CLORETS!
SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU.
!

I'M COMING!
RUNNING AIMLESSLY AROUND BY MYSELF HAS WORN ME OUT. TAKE ME WITH YOU!
WELL.
I JUST GOT MYSELF A NEW GIG, BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN FROM HERE ON OUT.
WANT TO COME WITH US?
YOU! CARRY A BUCKET OF WATER UP TO THE GUEST ROOM!
HUSTLE, BOYS!
THE GUEST WHO JUST ARRIVED WANTS TO TAKE A BATH, SO HEAT SOME WATER!
I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU THAT.
HOW MUCH DID YOU EAT?
I DON'T CARE WHERE YOU GO, BUT PAY UP FIRST!
LOOM
...
DO YOU WORK AT THE INN?
SPLASH
HOW'S THE TEMPERATURE?
SPLISH
AT THIS RATE, THAT WOMAN IS GOING TO KEEP US AS HER SLAVES FOREVER.

I DID DIE.
HOZWIT
...YOU WERE DEAD!
I THOUGHT ...
LONG TIME NO SEE, HERB.
POOF
COOL!
Well, hey
I WAS DECEIVED BY YOUR TRICKERY AND WAS KILLED.
BUT ...
...THAT BODY WAS A FAKE.
NO, I DIDN'T
That's my line
YOU TRICKED ME!
MY REAL BODY IS SOMEWHERE ELSE.
I MADE THAT BODY USING A MAGICAL SUBSTANCE CALLED THE SANDS OF LIFE. IT WAS A CONTAINER FOR MY SOUL.
CALM DOWN
WHAT?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHERE'S COOL?
WWOOSH
YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?
WHAT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT ME.
YOU ARE SUCH A DITZ.
SHA
THAT VOICE ...

I'LL TAKE YOU ...
...EVEN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
BUT HOLD ON.
I HAVE ANOTHER QUEST TO FINISH.
HUH?
ILLUSION
A QUEST?
DAK
WHAT'S WRONG?
HERB! WE NEED TO HURRY! WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!
IF WE DON'T HURRY ...
DAK
IT'S TINO.
TINO!
YEEK
AUGH! THE CAUSE OF EVERY-THING WRONG WITH MY LIFE!

I WAS ABLE TO RETAIN A SMALL BIT OF SAND, BUT I WAS CLOSE TO BECOMING JUST A SOUL.
AT THE MOMENT YOU STABBED ME, FOR A SPLIT SECOND, THE MAGIC WAS UNDONE. THE CASTLE AND BODY MADE FROM SAND CRUMBLED.
A BODY MADE FROM THE SANDS OF LIFE IS IMMORTAL, BUT IT STILL FEELS PAIN.
COOL !?
... THIS IS MY TRUE SIZE.
WHAT YOU SAW JUST NOW WAS AN ILLUSION.
SO, WITH THAT SAID...
POOF
DRIP
WILL YOU TAKE ME TO MY BODY?
I HOPE THAT'S THE LEAST YOU CAN DO FOR ME.
I HAVE TO DIG UP MY REAL BODY, BUT IT'S BURIED DEEPLY.
BEING THIS SMALL DOESN'T HELP EITHER.

...I'M COMING WITH YOU!
WHAAAT?
FINE.
BUT ...
WHEW
IS HE TELLING THE TRUTH?
UH-HUH
SO THAT'S THE STORY, CHUPI.
SHH!
CREAK
NOW THAT EVERYONE IS HERE...
...WE'RE LEAVING AT DAWN.
SURE ...
Who are these people?

OH, HERB.
Long time no see
PRINCESS CHELSEA...
NO, PRINCE ...
WAAA
TWIST TWIST TWIST
GOTCHA! FINALLY!
YOU'RE COMING HOME WITH ME!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? I CAME FOR TINO!
THE MAN AFTER TINO WAS HIS HUSBAND
WHY ARE YOU HERE ALL BY YOURSELF?
IMAGINE THE INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL IF THEY FOUND OUT THE PRINCESS'S HUSBAND FLED ON THEIR WEDDING NIGHT!
WE HAD AN ELABORATE WEDDING, INVITING ROYALTY FROM NEIGHBORING KINGDOMS.
YAAY
YAAY
...BUT THE HONOR OF MY KINGDOM RESTS ON IT!
I DON'T WANT TO MARRY A GUY, EITHER ...
I've known I was a man for years!
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO WAIT UNTIL AFTERWARDS TO TAKE HIM BACK?
TINO HAS PROMISED TO HELP ME ON MY NEXT MISSION.
IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS ALREADY!
WE'RE ON OUR "HONEYMOON" RIGHT NOW, BUT SOON WE'LL NEED TO GET BACK!
PRINCESS CHELSEA?

EEEK!
HE'S A WIZARD!
RUN FOR IT!
TWITCH TWITCH
ZOOM
SO I LET HIM HAVE IT.
POOF
BZZT ZT

ARE YOU PLANNING TO GO TO THE CAVE OF JEWELS?
YEAH.
I WILL.
CURSE YOU! I WON'T FORGET THIS!
LET'S GO.

WE'LL SELL THE WOMAN SHE'LL FETCH A GOOD PRICE
WE CAN USE THE GUY A LITTLE LONGER, SO WE'LL KEEP HIM.
HURRY! GRAB HER AND WRAP HER IN THE BLANKET!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
YOU SHOULD BE SLEEPING IN THE SHED LIKE I TOLD YOU!
THE BED WAS TOO BIG FOR ME.
BAM!
I GET IT.
THIS IS A BANDIT HIDEOUT.

RETURN TO DEVILWOOD
(PART TWO)

GO GATHER THE BONES OF YOUR LOVED ONES!
HA HA HA
IT SEEMS YOU DON'T KNOW THAT THE DEMON GUARDING THE RUBY HAS AWAKENED
DO YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU'LL LIVE TO REPAY ME?
IF YOU WANT, I'LL PAY WHAT I OWE YOU ON MY WAY BACK.
HA HA HA
WHAT?
THERE'S A RUMOR THAT THE DEMON GUARDING THE "KING OF RUBIES," THE LARGEST GEM IN THE CAVE, HAS AWAKENED FROM HIS 100-YEAR SLUMBER.
EVER SINCE, NO ONE WHO'S SET FOOT IN THE CAVE HAS RETURNED.

...IT CAUSED MUCH BLOODSHED OVER THE YEARS, THANKS TO MORTAL GREED.
WHEN THIS JEWEL PASSED TO HUMANS ...
THE SIZE, THE SPARKLE... NO OTHER JEWEL COULD COMPARE. IT WAS THE KING OF JEWELS.
IT WAS AN ENORMOUS RUBY UNEARTHED BY THE DWARFS IN ANCIENT TIMES.
BUT ONLY IN LEGEND.
WHEN THAT HAPPENED, A DEMON DESCENDED AND TOOK THE JEWEL AWAY.
THE RUBY ABSORBED THE BLOOD, AND ITS SHINE ONLY INCREASED. IN TIME, IT'S BEAUTY WAS TRULY LIKE NOTHING OF THIS WORLD. AT THAT POINT, IT BECAME CURSED.
LYONESS ...
AS LONG AS YOU'RE SAFE, I DON'T NEED ANY JEWEL.
WHO KNOWS?
IT'S IN THE CAVE OF JEWELS?
BUT WE NEED TO FIND THAT CAVE.
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, IT'S GUARDED BY A DEMON SOMEWHERE ON THIS EARTH.
NO ONE HAS SEEN THE KING OF RUBIES SINCE.
COOL'S SLEEPING IN HERE. HE'LL COME OUT IF YOU SNEEZE.

ACT 4
THE HEROES IN SEARCH OF CHUPI'S LOVER DESCENDED THE MOUNTAIN AND ARRIVED IN A SMALL VILLAGE.
WHAT?
I NEVER SAID I WOULDN'T GO! Of course not!
THEN LET'S GO HOME, HUBBY!
YOU DON'T WANT TO GO?
YOU DIDN'T SAY WE WERE HEADING TO A MONSTER-INFESTED CAVE!
NO.
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE KING OF RUBIES.
POOF
YEAH!
FORGET ABOUT WHAT THOSE BANDITS SAID!
YOUR LOVER IS PROBABLY FINE.
CHEER UP, CHUPI.

THE FIVE HEROES LEFT THE INN BEFORE DAWN. FOLLOWING THE MAP, THEY WENT IN SEARCH OF THE CAVE.
LYONESS!
FOR THREE DAYS, THEY WALKED THE MOUNTAINS, DESCENDED INTO A DEEP VALLEY AND FOLLOWED A SMALL STREAM.
AT LONG LAST, THEY FOUND THE CAVE THEY WERE SEARCHING FOR.
LET'S GO.

WE NEED TO FIND AN INN.
HEY, GUYS!
SNAP OUT OF IT, DUDE.
Aura of Love
PLEASE ...
COME HOME ...
WE KNOW BECAUSE EVERYONE WHO'S BOUGHT IT HAS VANISHED.
HA HA HA
IT'S FOR REAL.
EVERYONE GOING TO THE CAVE OF JEWELS BUYS THIS MAP.
¥50
THE NAIVE-LOOKING GUY?
WHOA
OH, HIM.
YEAH, HE BOUGHT ONE.
EXCUSE ME!
DID A TALL MAN BUY THAT MAP, ABOUT A YEAR AGO?
LUNGE
CHUP!!

IS THAT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE?...

SEEMS LIKE THE GUY WHO GOT THERE FIRST WAS THE FASTEST
LOOK HOW MANY THERE ARE.
THERE ARE JEWELS ON THE GROUND
IT'S PROBABLY STUFF THE GUY DROPPED.
IF WE FOLLOW THEM, WE'LL REACH THE TREASURE.
THERE'S A LIGHT.
OVER THERE
WHAT'S WRONG?
TRY OUT-RUNNING THE DEAD GUY.
!

SHUP
IS IT ...
NO.
THESE BONES ARE OLD.
HE DIED WAY MORE THAN A YEAR AGO.
HE WAS SLASHED.
Wow! Look how much he took! Greedy!
LOOK!
THIS GUY'S BAG IS FULL OF JEWELS!
THE ROAD SPLITS.
THAT MEANS HE GOT CAUGHT ...
BY THE DEMON?
WHO KNOWS?
JUST WATCH YOUR BACK.

IS THAT ...
...A THRONE?
ZHK
I WONDER IF BANDITS HID THESE TREASURES?
WITH THIS MANY JEWELS, WE CAN BUY THE WORLD!
WHAT'S THAT?
I WONDER WHAT'S IN THAT CAVE...
ZHK
ZHK
IT'S ... IT'S A GHOST!
!

SHEEEN
WOW!
IT'S A CARPET OF JEWELS ...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
THIS IS AMAZING!
ZHK
ZHK

SHING
CHUPI!
RUN!
CHK
FWUB
V
SH
!
COOL!
IT BLOCKED MY MAGIC!
TAKE CARE OF THE OTHERS!

LEAVE.
DAK
CHUPI!
BACK OFF, TINO!
LYO-NESS!
WHERE IS LYO-NESS?
UAA...
You must not disturb the King's slumber.

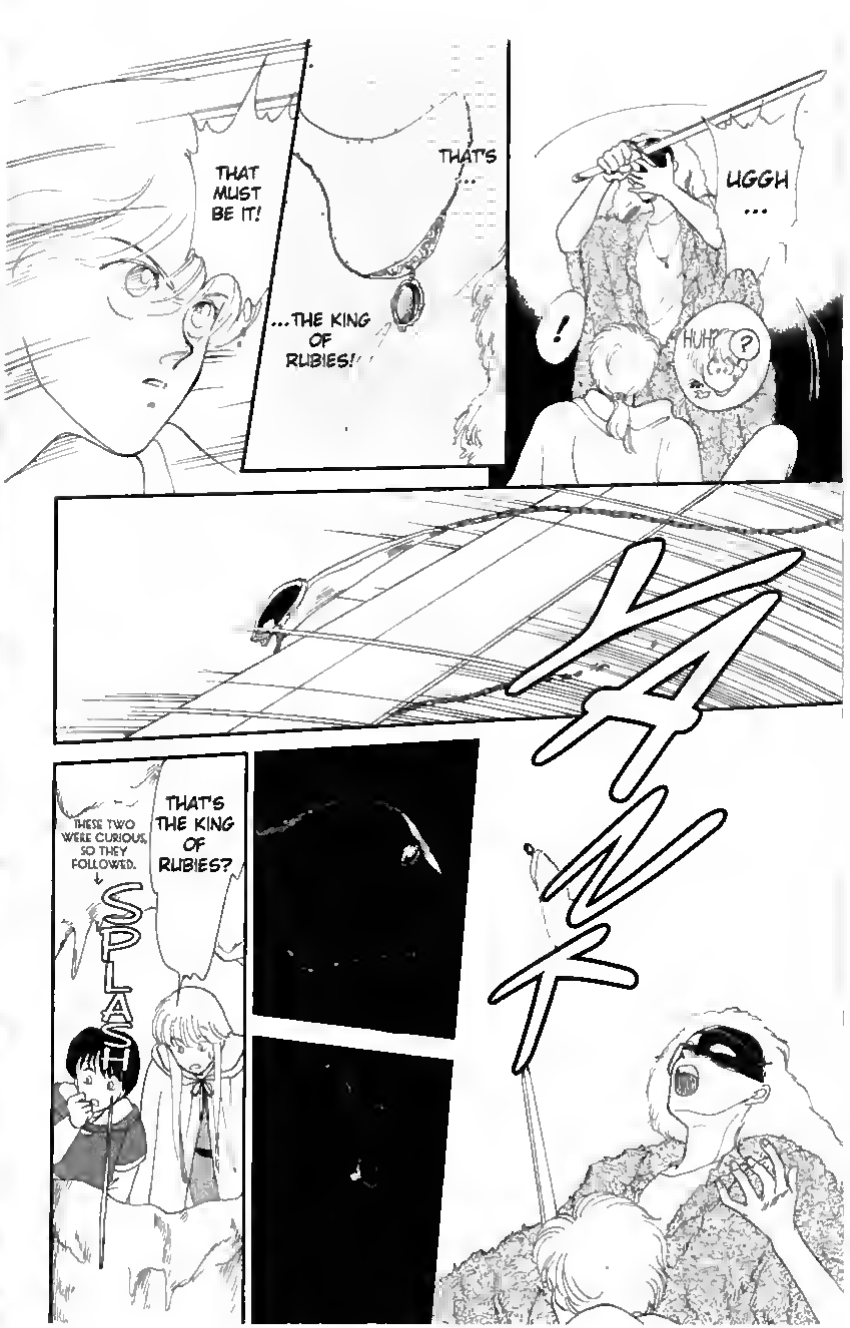
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM.
I'M COMING WITH YOU!
I WONDER WHERE THEY WENT.
I HOPE THEY'RE NOT LOST.
HERB!
TINO.
OVER THERE.
HERB!

HE'S PRETTY STRONG..
ZASH
CHANK
SHING
THIS WAY!
TAKE THE TWO OF THEM OUTSIDE.
TINO.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WHAT'S TOFU MADE OUT OF?
《TOFU?》
WAAA
PIP
VOOSH
GYAAA!
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT TOFU?
IT'S EASIER TO MANIPULATE SOMEONE WHEN HIS MIND IS BLANK.

GI
GI
GI
HE MUST HAVE SOME KIND OF WEAKNESS.
IF I CAN HIT HIM UNDER HIS CAPE ...
THIS IS A BAD ANGLE.
THAT MAN'S MASK AND CAPE HAVE THE POWER TO REPEL MY MAGIC.
COOL! SAVE HERB WITH YOUR MAGIC!
WHAT ?
HERB!
WAIT A MINUTE ...
...

LYONESS!
WOMB
UHHH
RING
!
WHAT?


THAT MUST BE IT!
THAT'S ...
...THE KING OF RUBIES!
UGGH ...
!
HUH?
YANK
THESE TWO WERE CURIOUS, SO THEY FOLLOWED.
SPLASH
THAT'S THE KING OF RUBIES?

THANK YOU SO MUCH.
THANKS TO YOU, I WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE A NIGHTMARE.
NO ONE WILL BOTHER IT AGAIN. IT CAN REST IN PEACE.
THIS WILL BE THE KING'S GRAVE.
ONE YEAR AGO...
...I FOUND THIS CAVE AND MADE IT TO THE JEWELS.
THEN I SUDDENLY HEARD A VOICE.
Who dares disturb my slumber?
I KNEW THAT STONE WAS SPECIAL. I WANTED TO GIVE IT TO CHUPI...
THEN I NOTICED ANOTHER STONE IN ONE OF THE SIDE CAVERNS.
FORGETTING HOW TIRED I'D BEEN, I STARTED TO STUFF MY BAG WITH GEMS.

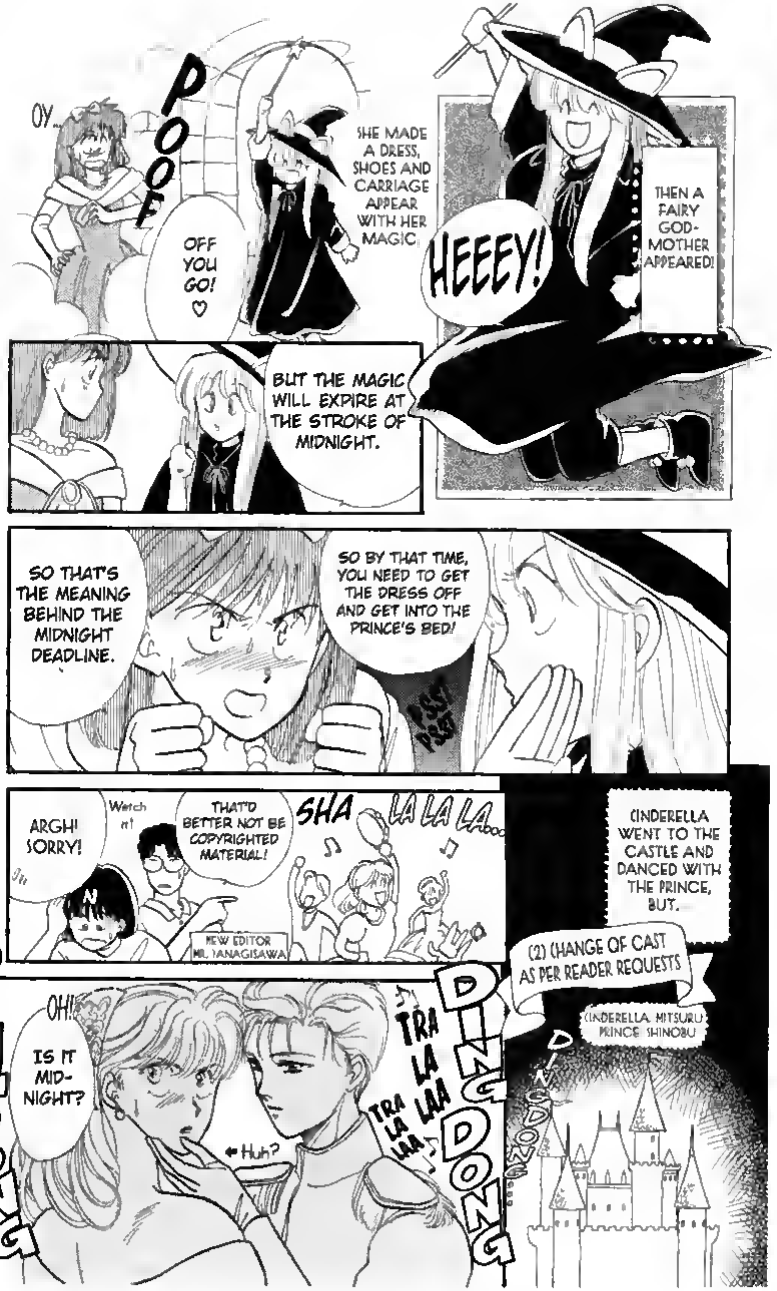
TAK TAK
AAAAAA
LYONESS!
LYONESS!
LYONESS!
WHERE'S THE STONE?
IT FELL INTO THE WATER.
WE SHOULD GET OUTSIDE.
CAN YOU WALK?
CHUPI?
WHERE AM I?

SHALL WE GET GOING, COOL?
GLAD IT ALL ENDED WELL.
THE KING OF RUBIES WAS MANIPULATING LYONESS TO PROTECT ITS LAIR.
THERE WAS NO DEMON GUARDING THE CAVE.
AT LEAST I'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MONEY.
THERE'S STILL A PROBLEM.
HUH?
ACT 6
OH, THAT?
WHY, YOU...
Have a nice life.
SORRY THE QUEST WAS SO SHORT.
PAT
OH ...
...
HUH?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'M COMING WITH YOU!
WHAT?

BUT MY LEGS STARTED TO DRAG AND MY VISION WENT DARK...
TERRIFIED, I RAN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE A YEAR HAS PASSED.
I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.
CHUPI!
BUT I'D RATHER HAVE YOU WITH ME AGAIN THAN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL JEWEL IN THE WORLD.
BUT ...
THIS WAS ALL BECAUSE OF MY GREED.
THANK YOU, LYONESS.
...I JUST WANTED TO BRING BACK THE MOST BEAUTIFUL JEWEL FOR CHUPI.
CHUPI AND LYONESS RETURNED TO THEIR VILLAGE AND LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.

SPECIAL: ROUND-ROBIN CINDERELLA

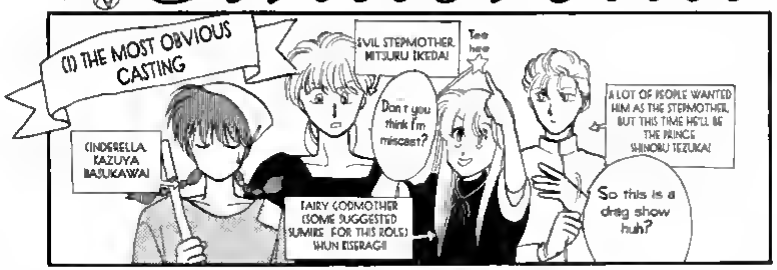
I'M TIRED OF ACTING LIKE A GIRL!
THIS IS A LOT MORE FUN THAN STAYING AT HOME!
ALL RIGHT! LET'S GET GOING!
YEAH!
Geez...
SO WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?
I'LL WRITE A LETTER TO MY PARENTS EXPLAINING EVERYTHING!
PRIN-CESS!
SO WHERE'S THE NEXT STOP, COOL?
VELCIA.
I want to die in my bed at home.
I want to see him!
EMPEROR TODO RULES VELCIA, RIGHT?
YEAH!
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D TRAVEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH WITH ME?
I'm making you keep your word.
THAT'S AT THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
THUS THEIR JOURNEY BEGAN.
RETURN TO DEVILWOOD: THE END


OY...
POOF
OFF YOU GO! ♡
SHE MADE A DRESS, SHOES AND CARRIAGE APPEAR WITH HER MAGIC.
HEEEY!
THEN A FAIRY GOD-MOTHER APPEARED!
BUT THE MAGIC WILL EXPIRE AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT.
SO THAT'S THE MEANING BEHIND THE MIDNIGHT DEADLINE.
SO BY THAT TIME, YOU NEED TO GET THE DRESS OFF AND GET INTO THE PRINCE'S BED!
PSST PSST
ARGH! SORRY!
Watch it
THAT'D BETTER NOT BE COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL!
SHA LA LA LA
NEW EDITOR MR. YANAGISAWA
CINDERELLA WENT TO THE CASTLE AND DANCED WITH THE PRINCE, BUT.
(2) CHANGE OF CAST AS PER READER REQUESTS
CINDERELLA: MITSURU PRINCE: SHINOBU
DING DONG
OH! IS IT MID-NIGHT?
Huh?
TRA LA LAA
TRA LA LAA
DING DONG
DING DONG

USUALLY, I DRAW WHATEVER I WANT FOR THESE THINGS.
FOR THIS CHAPTER, HOWEVER, I RECEIVED A LOT OF REQUESTS ABOUT WHO TO CAST IN WHICH ROLE.
TIME FOR A SPECIAL COSPLAY CHAPTER!
HELLO, EVERYONE!

Here is Greenwood: SPECIAL EDITION

Round-Robin *Cinderella*


(1) THE MOST OBVIOUS CASTING
EVIL STEPMOTHER: MITSURU IKEDA!
Tee hee
Don't you think I'm miscast?
A LOT OF PEOPLE WANTED HIM AS THE STEPMOTHER, BUT THIS TIME HE'LL BE THE PRINCE. SHINOBU TEZUKA!
So this is a drag show huh?
CINDERELLA: KAZUYA BAJIKAWA!
FAIRY GODMOTHER (SOME SUGGESTED SUMIES FOR THIS ROLE) SHUN ISSEKAGE

THEY WOULD NOT ALLOW HER TO GO TO THE BALL AT THE PALACE.
This is so wrong!
Please forgive me, Mother!
Come, Cinderella! Lick my shoes!
CRACK CRACK
OH HO HO HO HO!
POOR CINDERELLA WAS ALWAYS BEING ABUSED BY HER STEPMOTHER AND STEPSISTERS.

My face wouldn't look that hideous.
I refuse to play a step-sister.
STEPMOTHER: NAGISA TEZUKA.
THERE IS, BUT THAT GIRL ISN'T...
YOUR HIGHNESS!
IS THERE ANYONE LEFT IN THIS HOUSE?
MAY I TRY THE GLASS SLIPPER?
Ahh! SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE HER!
Tsk
THE MAIN ATTRACTION! CINDERELLA: SHINOBU TEZUKA!
P.S. THIS IS THE FIRST FULL LENGTH PANEL IN GREENWOOD!
OH HO HO HO
OOPS! SORRY!
I GUESS SHE CAN'T TRY THE SLIPPER!
AAAA!
SHATTER
...HERE'S THE OTHER ONE.
HA
WELL ...
THIS IS HOW THE STORY IS SUPPOSED TO GO!
RUSTLE
HOW COULD YOU SYMPATHIZE WITH A SNEAKY GIRL LIKE THAT?
IT'S JUST SO WRONG!
YOU SURE THIS IS OKAY?
The Happy End
EEEK
ROUND-ROBIN CINDERELLA. THE END

THUNK THUNK THUD
SHOOP
YOU'RE GOING TO FALL.
WAIT! IF YOU RUN...
DAK
I HAVE TO LEAVE! FAREWELL, PRINCE!
DAK
NO! WAIT!
THE OWNER OF THE GLASS SLIPPER MUST HAVE MOVED FAR, FAR AWAY.
OF COURSE IT DOESN'T!
HOSPITALIZED FOR THREE MONTHS
BUT HIS FACE RECOVERED
IT DOESN'T FIT.
But she's the last
BUT THE SHOE DIDN'T FIT ANY OF THE MAIDENS IN THE HOUSE.
STEPSISTER
Please stop that. You're going to break the shoe!
PRINCE MITSURU IKEDA.
(3) CASTING FOR THE DISNEY VERSION
STILL THE SERVANT.
THIS IS THE LAST HOUSE?
YES.
THE PRINCE VISITED EVERY HOUSE IN HIS KINGDOM IN SEARCH OF THE OWNER OF THE GLASS SLIPPER.

MACHIAVELLIAN SPORTS FESTIVAL

MACHIAVELLIAN SPORTS FESTIVAL

WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
WE CAN'T GIVE UP ON EVERY RACE HASUKAWA'S GOING TO RUN IN.
BUT THEN WE COULDN'T DO ANY BETTER THAN SECOND PLACE.
TAK

THE SWEDISH RELAY
FOUR RUNNERS RUN 100, 200, 300 AND 400-METER SPRINTS. IT'S ONE OF THE MAIN EVENTS OF THE RYOKUTO ATHLETIC FESTIVAL. FIRST PLACE GETS 30 POINTS, THE HIGHEST SCORE IN THE FESTIVAL, SO EVERY TEAM CONCENTRATES ON THIS RACE.

IT'S THE SAME AS LAST YEAR.
Yesterday's friend is tomorrow's enemy.
IF WHAT HIS BROTHER SAYS IS TRUE...
...THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN LOSE THE RELAY.
2-D

WE DON'T THINK A BORING, UNCHARISMATIC GUY WITH CHRONIC STAGE FRIGHT HAS WHAT IT TAKES! BUT...
NORMALLY, WE'D PICK A MORE QUALIFIED GUY TO RUN OUR TEAM FOR THE ATHLETICS FESTIVAL.

RYOKUTO ACADEMY'S MAIN EVENT, THE ANNUAL ATHLETICS FESTIVAL, WAS FAST APPROACHING.
LOOK, LEAVE IT ALL TO US.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS RUN!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
...THE RULES SAY THAT THE GUY ANCHORING THE SWEDISH RELAY HAS TO BE THE CAPTAIN!
So true

WELL, I'M CAPTAIN IN NAME ONLY.
LOOK A LITTLE HAPPIER, WILL YA?
YOU WERE CHOSEN AS CAPTAIN!
EVERYONE REMEMBERS HOW YOU OUTRAN SIX GUYS.
Let's see...
CLASS E HAS THE BEST ODDS...
...BUT I WONDER HOW THINGS WILL CHANGE WITH HASUKAWA AS CAPTAIN
BUT THANKS TO YOU, IT'S GOING TO GET INTERESTING.
OF COURSE. WHO'D WANT TO MAKE YOU CAPTAIN?
I SEE
THAT MIGHT BE A GOOD STRATEGY...
THEY SAID THEY'RE NOT GOING TO TELL ANYONE, EVEN ME...
...UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, WHEN WE HAVE TO SIGN UP. THEY'RE KEEPING IT CONFIDENTIAL.
I'M SURE MY CLASSMATES ARE PICKING THEM FOR ME RIGHT NOW.
?
I DON'T KNOW.
SO, SUKA-CHAN ...
...WHICH RACES WILL YOU RUN?

THAT MEANS HASUKAWA CAN ENTER FOUR RACES.
THE SWEDISH RELAY ISN'T COUNTED IN THE THREE-RACE RULE.
I haven't appeared in a while, so take a good look!
My hair was parted on the other side in volume 3.
2-E OWNS THE ULTIMATE WEAPON.
2-B
THE RYOKUTO ATHLETICS FESTIVAL IS WAR.
IF CLASS E WINS FOUR RACES, WE'RE SCREWED.
I'M SURE THEY'LL PUT HIM IN EVERY RACE POSSIBLE.
?
...IS HIM.
DURING THIS TIME, THE TENSION SKY-ROCKETS.
ISN'T THERE ANYONE WHO CAN BEAT HIM?
THE ATHLETE WHO HAS EVERYONE'S ATTENTION THIS YEAR...
KEEP AN EYE ON KAZUYA HASUKAWA!
Yeah.
IT MUST BE ROUGH ON YOU, SUKA-CHAN.

AS A MEMBER OF TEAM E...
...I WANT EVERY-ONE TO DO THEIR BEST TO WIN THIS MATCH!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP
THIS IS HASU-KAWA.
HE'LL BE THE TEAM CAPTAIN.
COME ON! PLAY THE PART!
GEEZ, YOU'RE LAME!
THEN PUT SOMEONE ELSE IN CHARGE!
I NEVER SAID I WANTED TO BE CAPTAIN!
YOU GUYS ARE THE ONES WHO SAID, "LEAVE IT ALL TO US."
IF YOU DON'T ACT ENTHUSIASTIC, HOW'S THE TEAM SUPPOSED TO GET PSYCHED?

ATHLETICS FESTIVAL
Organizing Committee
..CONSIDERING THE ENVIRON-MENT WE'RE IN
211
He doesn't know either!
GO!
YEAH!
READY, SHINOBU?
YES, PROFESSOR.
WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLACE YOUR BETS?
FWP
SHUP
THEY'RE PLANNING TO WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, WHEN THEY GET CLASS B'S INFORMA-TION
ACTS LIKE HE BELONGS IN THE COUNCIL OFFICE.
TOMOR-ROW'S THE DEAD-LINE...
...BUT NOBODY'S REGISTERED.
Student Co
1-E
...AND THUS WE WILL JOIN TOGETHER TO FORM TEAM E!

Sato came in last place last year
YOU'RE GOING TO RUN, RUN, RUN FOR TEAM E!
WHERE ARE MY RIGHTS?
IT'S YOUR OBLIGATION TO COME IN FIRST IN THE SWEDISH RELAY!
NO ONE ASKED YOU FOR YOUR OPINION!
HEH HEH HEH.
WE'LL KILL YOU IF YOU GET INJURED!
LISTEN, HASUKAWA. YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF UNTIL THE RACE!
I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL!
GEEZ! NOW WE NEED A BODYGUARD FOR HASU-KAWA!
...
Wait!
Hey! Don't run away!
AAAA!
WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF THAT?
TOK
TOK
TOK

SO THAT'S HASU-KAWA.
THEY ANNOUNCED THE LINEUP!
IT'S UP TO YOU NOW! DON'T LOSE!
GEEZ, WE HAVE TO FACE HIM DEAD-ON.
HE'S IN THE 200, THE 400, AND THE 400 RELAY
THEY'RE GOING AFTER THE SHORT-DISTANCE RACES TO SCORE HIGHER POINTS.
THIS IS AN INTERVIEW FOR OUR ATHLETICS FESTIVAL FEATURE. HASUKAWA, THE MAN OF THE HOUR! CAN WE GET A COMMENT, PLEASE?
WE'RE FROM THE MEDIA COM-MITTEE!
HELLO!

TA
DA
letics Festival Feature
"The Goal Beckons Me!"
Kazuya Hasukawa (Class E)
注目株
Man of the hour
JUST RUN TOWARD THE GOAL! THAT'S IT!
Freak alert!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH !!
HEH ...
It's your time to shine!
WHAT DOES EVERYONE THINK I AM?
OH, COME ON. YOU'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO BE A HERO.
THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER!
HAHAHA!!

EVERY TEAM IS TRAINING HARD...
...BUT I HEAR ALL THE GUYS ON THE TRACK TEAM ARE WORKING OVERTIME TO REDEEM THEMSELVES AFTER LAST YEAR'S RACE.
HOP
WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO WIN THIS YEAR!
WE'RE VERY CONFIDENT.
HOW CONFIDENT ARE YOU?
OH, GET A GRIP!
EVERYONE'S GOING TO END UP HATING ME!
WAIT!
THE SCHOOL TRACK TEAM? THEY'RE LOSERS!
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?
DAK
DAK
HASUKAWA! WAIT!
ONE MORE QUESTION! WHAT'S THE SECRET TO RUNNING SO FAST?
COME ON! TELL US!
I DON'T KNOW!
HOLD ON!
GRAB
LET ME GO!
HOW MANY WEIRDOES CAN ONE SCHOOL HAVE?
LEAVE IT TO US! AS LONG AS HASUKAWA'S IN THE RACE, OUR VICTORY IS DEFINITE!
Ha ha ha... I see. I see...

26 members of the track team:
"We will defeat Hasukawa!"
Will they triumph?
Stats from the track coach inside!
Athletes enraged over Hasukawa's comment
ISSUE 2
CRASH
SLAM
BAM
SWSHH
Augh!
I'M NOT THE SCHOOL'S PLAY-THING!
I DON'T DESERVE TO GET BAD-MOUTHED!
AND NOW I'M IN PHYSICAL DANGER ...
I DON'T DESERVE GUYS CHAL-LENGING ME!
WOO!
WOOF WOOF WOOF
TNK TNK TNK
I HATE ...
...THE ATHLE-TICS FESTI-VAL!
What should we wear?
We should go!
Ryokurin Academy Athletics Festival September 30th
Athletics Festival September 30th

That's Hasukawa.
Ugh.
GLARE
THE ATHLETICS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL START AT 3:30 PM...
TOK TOK
THE ATHLETICS FESTIVAL AT THIS SCHOOL IS NOT NORMAL!
I DON'T CARE IF I'M A HERO!
Really? I want to be one.
FIRST PART OF THE CHEER!
PUT THIS IN HIS MOUTH WHILE HE'S SLEEPING AND...
Guys...
LISTEN, SHUN. YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE.
YEAH, HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THE TYPE YOU CAN COUNT ON.
Hey! He can hear you!
HEY, ISN'T HASUKAWA OUR CAPTAIN?
IN HIS CASE, I THINK IT'S JUST AN HONORARY TITLE.
THE ANCHOR OF THE RELAY HAS TO BE THE CAPTAIN.
MUTTER
MUTTER

THE BIG DAY ARRIVED.
BANG
Another loss!
2-B
2-E
FIRST PLACE: HASUKAWA FROM CLASS E!
WOW!
HASUKAWA, THE MAN OF THE HOUR, WINS THE 200-METER DASH!
That was amazing!
He outran everyone!
victry
I KNEW HE'D GET INTO IT.
HE JUST THINKS TOO MUCH.
GO! GO! YOU!
KEEP IT UP!
GOOD! GOOD!
THIS YEAR'S STAR JUST HAD ANOTHER MAGNIFICENT RUN!
YOU'D BETTER NOT LOSE THE NEXT RACE, OR YOU'LL REGRET IT!
You're not allowed in.
Go! You got it!
YEAH YEAH YEAH
YEAH
YOU GUYS AREN'T LOUD ENOUGH OVER THERE!
EEEEK! MISUZU!
WIN
NOBODY'S EVER BEEN A CHEERLEADER TWICE I LOOKED IT UP.
NO ONE ELSE COULD HAVE PULLED IT OFF. NEXT YEAR, SHUN WILL HAVE DONE IT THREE YEARS RUNNING.
I'm retiring, though. I'm too tall.
3-B

SO FAR, THE SCORE HAS BEEN DOMINATED BY HASUKAWA'S VICTORIES!
FIRST PLACE IN THE 400-METER DASH, THE FINAL RACE BEFORE LUNCH BREAK, IS TEAM E!
ALTHOUGH TEAM E HAS NOT DONE WELL IN THE OTHER RACES, IT'S IN A SECOND-PLACE TIE!
YEAH
IS THERE ANYONE WHO CAN STOP HASUKAWA?
HFF
WE'LL TURN THE TABLES IN THE END!
AT THIS RATE, WE'RE GOOD!
2-E
2-E
DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS, SO DO NOT USE THEM.
THIS JUST IN FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. A BOTTLE OF LAXATIVE HAS BEEN CONFISCATED BY A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT.

A B C D E
30 19 13 30
YOU SHOULD'VE DONE IT, FRED.
HEH HEH HEH ...
AND HASUKAWA TAKES THE LEAD IN THE 400-METER RACE!
YEAH
YEAH
2-E
I DIDN'T KNOW HOW AMAZING OUR CAPTAIN WAS.
IF HE KEEPS IT UP, HE'LL EARN 70 POINTS BY HIMSELF!
1-E
1-E
I GUESS EVERYONE HAS ONE THING THEY'RE GOOD AT.
YEAH
DON'T GIVE UP YET! THE RACE HAS ONLY BEGUN!
OH, NO! OUR BEST GUY IS BEHIND HIM BY TWO METERS!
WILL THE OTHER TEAMS BE ABLE TO CATCH UP?
THE TEAM E CHEERING SQUAD IS GETTING ROWDY!
2-E
2-E

TUP
!?
A BEE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY SHOE...
stung
DID THEY PUT PINS IN HIS SHOE?
THAT'S THE OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK! CAN'T BE!
EEEK!
MY HEART'S BEATING FAST...
I DUNNO ...
I'M GETTING CHILLS, TOO...
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING NOW?
AREN'T SOME BEE STINGS DANGEROUS?
HASU-KAWA! ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, HASUKAWA!
PAT PAT
3-E
IT'S THAT TIME.
I REPEAT. ALL ATHLETES ...
ALL ATHLETES ENTERING IN THE SWEDISH RELAY RACE, PLEASE COME TO THE ENTRY GATE.
OWWW!
SHF
OH ...
LET'S GO, HASU-KAWA.
YEAH.
YOKI

SHOCK!
GUYS ...
CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING SO HE'LL BE READY IN FIVE?
GET ANOTHER RUNNER!
2-E
THIS JUST IN: HASUKAWA WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE RELAY!
OOO
SCURRY SCURRY
YAAY BANG
IF WE'D KNOWN THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, WE'D HAVE SAVED OUR BEST GUYS FOR HOW!
WE'RE GONNA WIN!
BWA HA HA HA HA
2-G

ASTONISHING INFORMATION HAS JUST ARRIVED AT HEADQUARTERS!
AAGH!
WHO DID IT? THAT'S TERRIBLE!
I WONDER IF IT WAS MY TEAM ...
IT IS UNKNOWN WHETHER HE WILL BE ABLE TO RUN IN THE SWEDISH RELAY.
WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH UPDATES ON THIS NEWS FLASH AS THEY OCCUR.
AAGH!
HASUKAWA FROM TEAM E WAS JUST STUNG BY A BEE ON HIS RIGHT LEG! HE'S BEEN TAKEN TO THE INFIRMARY!
WHAT!?
IS IT WAS PURELY AN ACCIDENT.
NOOO
HE NEEDS TO RELAX FOR AT LEAST TWENTY MINUTES. THEN WE'LL SEE HOW HE'S DOING.
UMM. . PROFESSOR —.
AHH AHH!

SHUU
WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'LL SAY WHEN I GET BACK?
GEEZ.
2-E

As long as you're aware of it...
I DON'T LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES.
RUB RUB

DUOM
EEEK!
HASU-KAWAAA...

YOU'D BETTER RUN!
THANKS TO YOU, WE LOST! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT, EH?
DAKKADAKKA

OH! SORRY...
OH!
BUMP

CALM DOWN, SAITO!
YOU'RE ALIVE? WHY, YOU...
YOU THINK THAT'S GOING TO FIX THINGS?

I FEEL FINE.
HOW'RE YOU FEELING?

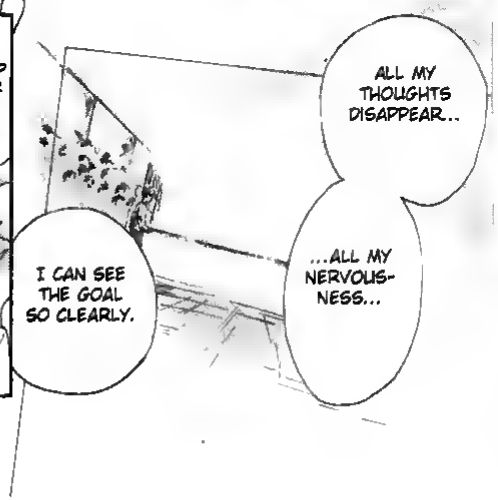
LOOKS LIKE IT'S OVER.
YAWN

WHEN I STAND AT THE STARTING LINE, I CAN SEE THE GOAL.

KAZU-YA?

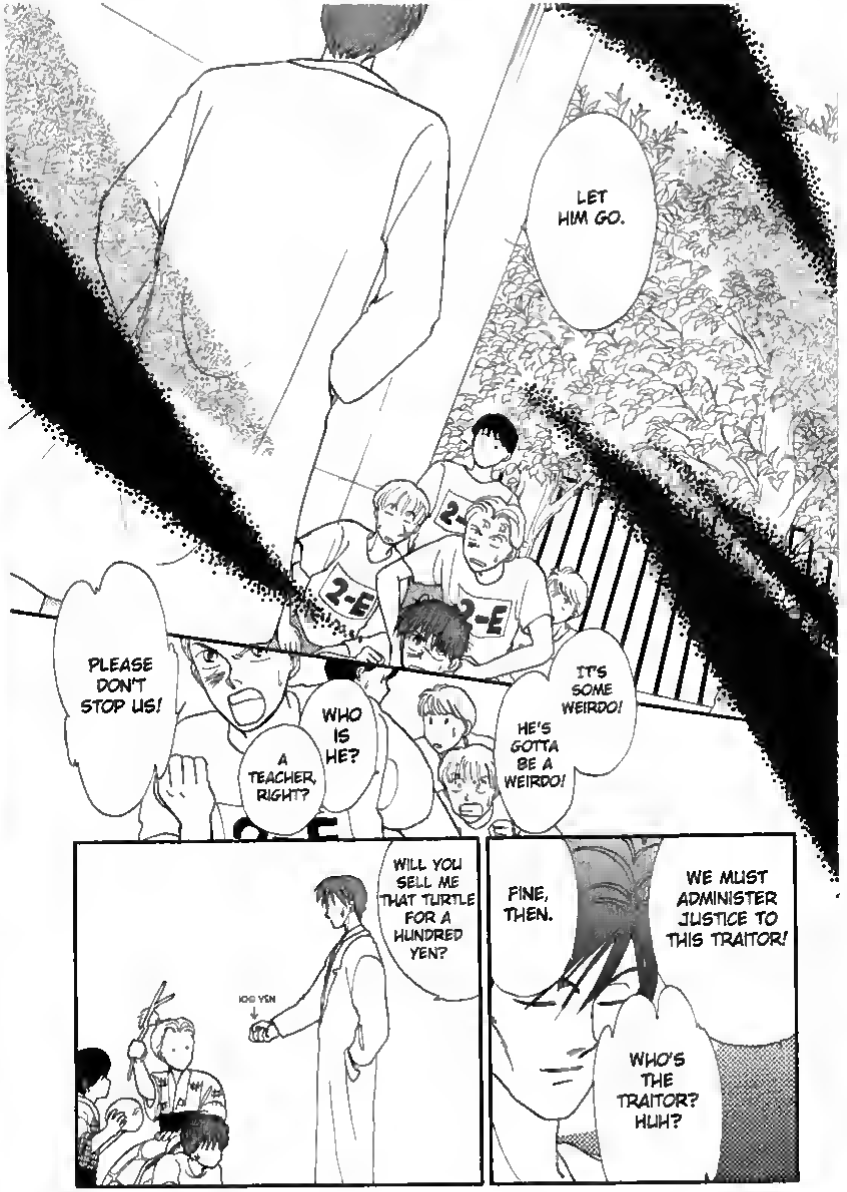
YOU SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT, THEN.
THAT'S GOOD.

I GET WORKED UP OVER THE STUPIDEST THINGS.
I SCREW THINGS UP ALL YEAR LONG.
BY THE TIME I FIGURE OUT WHAT I WANT TO DO, IT'S ALREADY OVER.

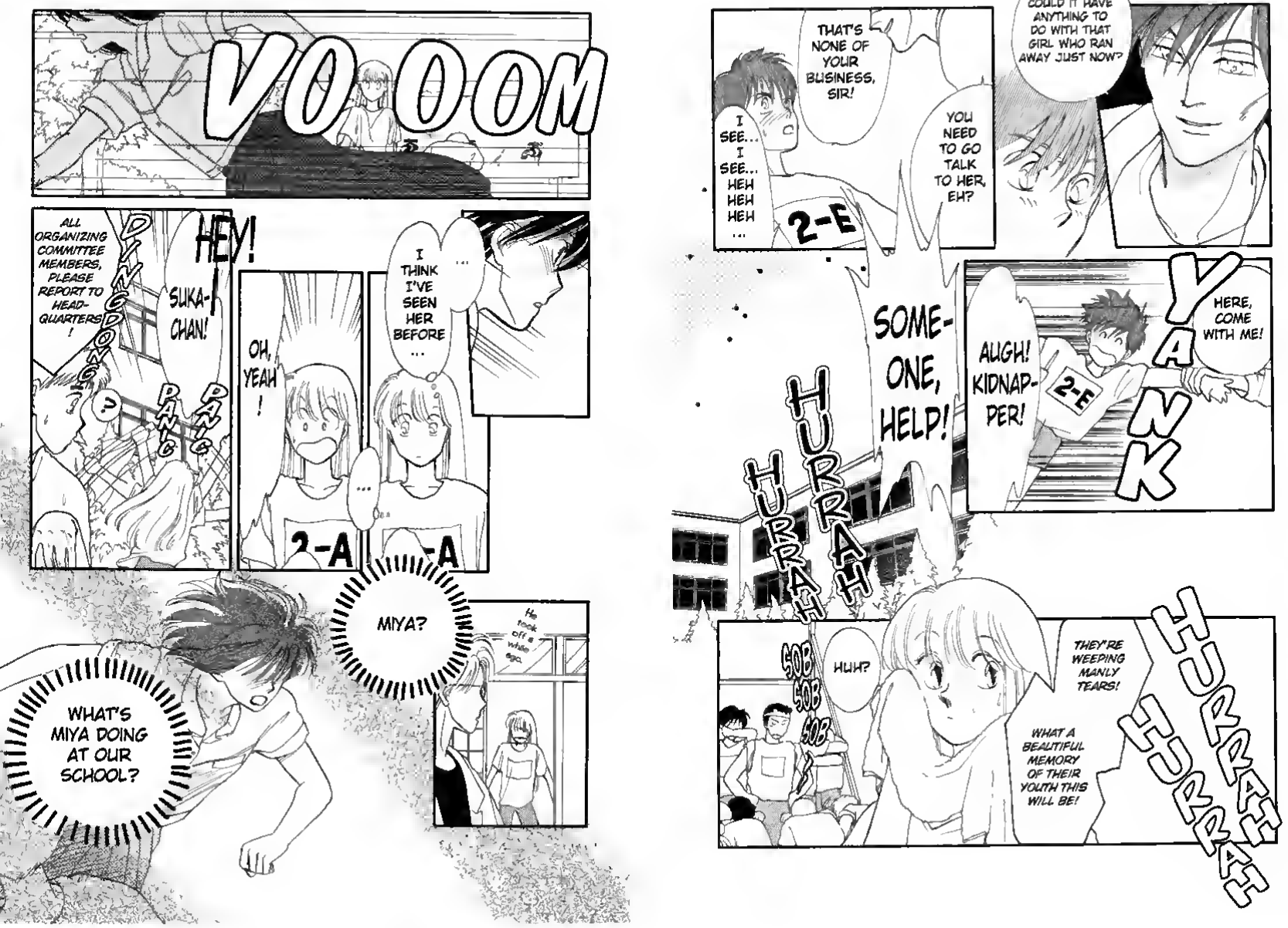

I CAN SEE THE GOAL SO CLEARLY.
ALL MY THOUGHTS DISAPPEAR...
...ALL MY NERVOUS-NESS...

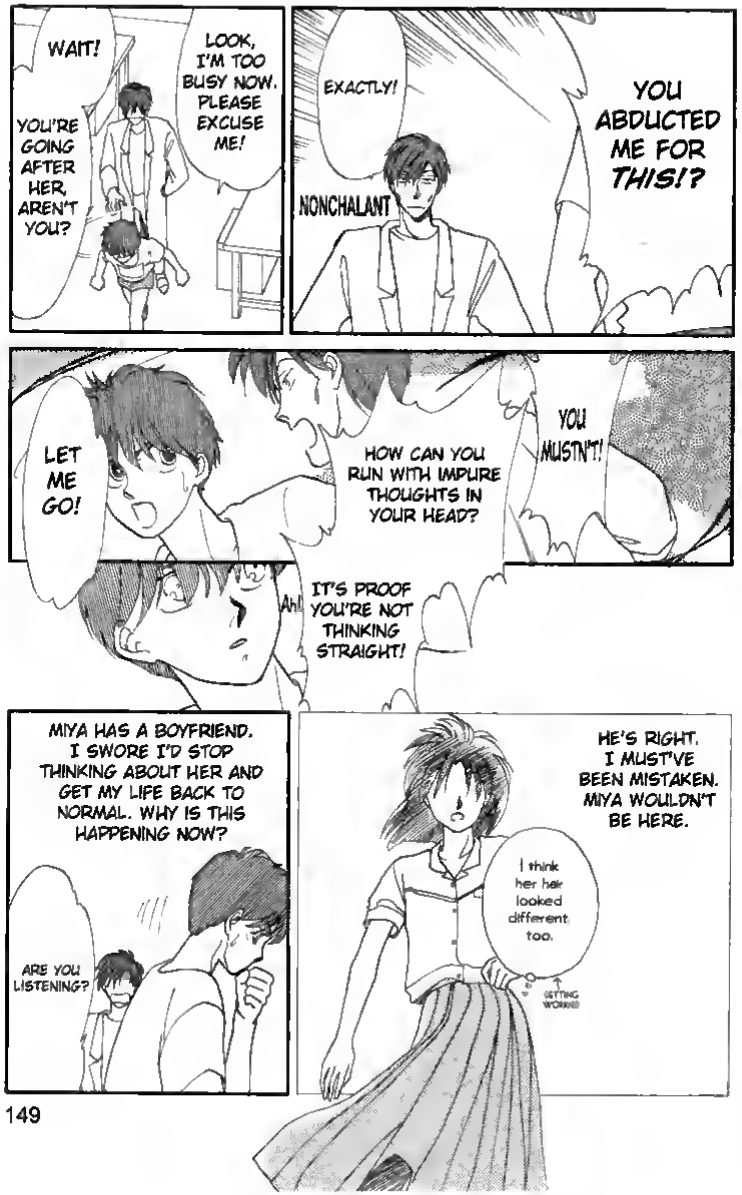
SLOW, CLUMSY TURTLE

SLOW,
CLUMSY
TURTLE


LET HIM GO.
2-E
PLEASE DON'T STOP US!
WHO IS HE?
A TEACHER, RIGHT?
IT'S SOME WEIRDO!
HE'S GOTTA BE A WEIRDO!
WILL YOU SELL ME THAT TURTLE FOR A HUNDRED YEN?
100 YEN
FINE, THEN.
WE MUST ADMINISTER JUSTICE TO THIS TRAITOR!
WHO'S THE TRAITOR? HUH?

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
...YOU'RE GOING TO LEAD ME TO A PALACE OF RICHES.
COME. NOW THAT I'VE SAVED YOU...
Hooray! A hundred yen!
TAK
GRAB
HEY!
HOLD ON. I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.
CAN'T IT WAIT?
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO DO..
2-E
MY NAME IS SHIRO MURAKAMI.
I TEACH FIRST YEAR BIOLOGY...
...AND I'M THE COACH OF THE TRACK TEAM YOU SO BELITTLED.
I DIDN'T!


VOOOM
HEY!
SUKA-CHAN!
ALL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS, PLEASE REPORT TO HEAD-QUARTERS!
DINGDONG
PANIC
PANIC
?
?
OH, YEAH!
2-A
I THINK I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE...
...
...
-A
MIYA?
He took off a white sign.
WHAT'S MIYA DOING AT OUR SCHOOL?
I SEE... I SEE... HEH HEH HEH...
2-E
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, SIR!
YOU NEED TO GO TALK TO HER, EH?
COULD IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THAT GIRL WHO RAN AWAY JUST NOW?
SOME-ONE, HELP!
HURRAH HURRAH
AUGH! KIDNAP-PER!
2-E
YANK
HERE, COME WITH ME!
HUH?
SOB SOB SOB
THEY'RE WEEPING MANLY TEARS!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MEMORY OF THEIR YOUTH THIS WILL BE!
HURRAH HURRAH


WAIT!
LOOK, I'M TOO BUSY NOW. PLEASE EXCUSE ME!
YOU'RE GOING AFTER HER, AREN'T YOU?
EXACTLY!
NONCHALANT
YOU ABDUCTED ME FOR THIS!?
LET ME GO!
HOW CAN YOU RUN WITH IMPURE THOUGHTS IN YOUR HEAD?
YOU MUSTN'T!
Ah!
IT'S PROOF YOU'RE NOT THINKING STRAIGHT!
MIYA HAS A BOYFRIEND. I SWORE I'D STOP THINKING ABOUT HER AND GET MY LIFE BACK TO NORMAL. WHY IS THIS HAPPENING NOW?
ARE YOU LISTENING?
HE'S RIGHT. I MUST'VE BEEN MISTAKEN. MIYA WOULDN'T BE HERE.
I think her hair looked different too.
GETTING WORRIED

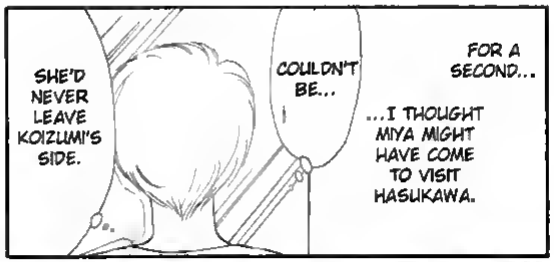
I WONDER HOW SHE'S BEEN.
IS SHE STILL AFRAID TO GO HOME?
MIYA
...
WH...
WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE?
HEH HEH HEH
I SAID I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU.
PEW PEW
2-E
HEH HEH HEH
HASU-KAWA.
PEK
SOUND OF HIS SUPPOSE
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
* HIS MEMORY IS REALLY SKEWED FROM REALITY
JOIN THE TRACK TEAM!
WOW
YEEK!
2-E
!
SHUP
SLAM

AAAAA MOMMY!
LET US TEST THE LIMITS OF THE HUMAN BODY TOGETHER!
HASU-KAWA!
DON'T THINK I'LL LET A GUARDIAN STAND BETWEEN ME AND MY AMBITION!
Brother
AH, PROFESSOR DEATH. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, GRABBING MY BROTHER'S LEG?
WELL, THINK IT OVER.
DO WHAT YOU WANT.
THIS GUY'S A WEIRDO, BUT WE WENT TO RYOKUTO TOGETHER.
JOIN THE TEAM! YOU WON'T REGRET IT!
HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE HIM.
ARE YOU OKAY, KAZUYA?
Let go of him.
IT'S NOT RIGHT FOR A TEACHER TO FORCE SOMETHING ON A STUDENT.

HUH?
WE CAN STILL MAKE IT TO BARCELONA!
YOUR SPEED! IT'S AMAZING! YOU COULD REALLY DO IT!
I WAS WATCHING YOU RUN ALL DAY TODAY. THE RUMORS NEVER CAME CLOSE!
AND THERE'S STILL TIME FOR YOU TO GROW A FEW INCHES!
CANDIES OF THE WORLD
LET'S STAND UPON THE WORLD'S STAGE TOGETHER!
EEEK!
TAK
I'LL MAKE THESE LEGS NUMBER ONE!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
ZUP ZUP
YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A GREAT SPRINTER! IF WE STUDY AND TRAIN YOU SCIENTIFICALLY, WHO KNOWS HOW FAR WE CAN INCREASE YOUR SPEED?

LIKE OZMA THE BASEBALL ROBOT!
HE'S USING YOU AS A GUINEA PIG TO TURN THE HUMAN BODY INTO A PRECISION SPORTS MACHINE.
ALL THE OLYMPIC RECORDS NOWADAYS ARE THE WORK OF DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS.
THAT'S NO SURPRISE.
I BET HE'S A SCIENTIST FROM A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY, DEVELOPING A DRUG TO CREATE SUPERHUMANS.
It's a top-secret military project!
You can't turn him down. Not after all that stuff he said.
YOU'VE GOTTA DO IT.
WELL ?
ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM, SUKA-CHAN?
HMM ....
SUKA-CHAN HAS ENOUGH ON HIS MIND. MAYBE I SHOULDN'T TELL HIM.
HUH?
THUD
CRASH
HA HA HA
TOK TOK

So confused...
WAHHA HAHA
WOW, THAT'S AMAZING!
SO YOU'VE NEVER DONE TRACK AND FIELD?
I RAN A LITTLE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ...
INDIA
NAH HA HA HA HA HA
PARTY!
THAT'S NOT MY FAULT!
THE TRACK TEAM STILL HATES YOU, RIGHT?
MAKES NO DIFFERENCE.
YOU SURE DO MAKE A LOT OF ENEMIES.
TAK
..BUT I GOT IN A FIGHT WITH MY SEMPAI.
HE JUST JOINED THE STAFF THIS YEAR.
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A JOCK AT ALL, DOES HE?
GLUG GLUG GLUG
ANYWAY, ABOUT THE BIOLOGY TEACHER
HE'S A MYSTERY.



WHAT AM I ...
WHAT ...
HFF
HFF
HFF

HE WON'T ESCAPE SO EASILY.
HEH HEH HEH...
SO HE THINKS HE CAN GET AWAY FROM ME.
...AND THIS GUY.
HEH.
HEH HEH HEH
I DO FEEL SORRY FOR HASUKAWA'S BROTHER, BUT HE NEEDS TO ABANDON HIS DREAMS OF A HAPPY RELATIONSHIP WITH A GIRL.
Actually, I don't feel sorry at all
AACHOO
ARE YOU STILL THINKING ABOUT IT?
I LIKE RUNNING, BUT...
FOR SOME REASON, I'M GETTING CHILLS.
TINGLE TINGLE

I CAME TO FINALLY SAY THANKS...
WHY DID I RUN AWAY?
HEEE
WHAT AM I DOING?
HEEE
...AND TO SEE HIM... BUT...
IT'S "YOU KNOW WHAT," BUT SHE HAS NO IDEA. THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO KNOW ARE...
...THE AUTHOR...
YEAH!

I think he is serious.
WE'LL JOIN FORCES, AND SOON ALL THE WORLD WILL KNOW OUR NAMES!
YEAH ...
GLAD TO HEAR YOU'RE UP TO THE CHALLENGE!
GOOD! GOOD! LEAVE IT ALL TO ME!
THAT'S THE STORY, SO TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM!
WE MAKE IT A RULE NOT TO HOLD GRUDGES AFTER THE ATHLETICS FESTIVAL.
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT TRASH YOU TALKED.
WHAT ?
HEH HEH HEH
UM ...
RUN TEN LAPS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? RUN!
Time to go! Let's not waste our youth!
HE'S ALL YOURS. WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP THE COACH HAPPY, RIGHT?
RYOKUTO ATHLETICS

HE THINKS I'M GOING TO THE OLYMPICS! I'VE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THAT!
NO, WAIT!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR DEBATE
HANG OUT AND HAVE SOME DRINKS
YOU SHOULD DO IT. YOU'RE GOOD AT RUNNING, SUKA-CHAN.
YOU SHOULD JOIN A TEAM! MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR YOUTH!
YOU'VE GOT THE FREE TIME.
YOU HAVE NO HOBBIES AND NO GIRL-FRIEND.
Oh. I see.
It was just flattery.
IT'S GOTTA BE A JOKE!
He was buttering you up.
WHY ARE YOU TAKING IT SO SERIOUSLY?
I'M GONNA DO IT!
NO MORE WORRYING OVER EVERY LITTLE THING!
I PROMISED MYSELF YESTERDAY: NO MORE REGRETS!
HMM ...
THAT'S TRUE
Live a happy life...
And forget about that girl.

Here's your attendance sheet
Come every day
SHUT UP!
YOU JOINED MID-SEMESTER, SO YOU NEED TO CATCH UP!
BUT THE TRACK TEAM PRACTICES ARE ONLY ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY!
YOU'RE GOING TO TRAIN EVERY DAY AFTER SCHOOL!
RAISE YOUR LEG HIGHER!
Augh!
NOT YET!
WEL-COME BACK!
LOOKS LIKE A LOT OF WORK.
I KNOW
I'M SURPRISED HE DECIDED TO DO IT.
UGH
HUH?
SWOOSH
28

DO SOME STRETCH-ES!
YOU'VE GOT NO STRENGTH.
HUH HUH
HEY!
HA HA HA HA
THIS IS NO TIME TO RELAX!
RAISE YOUR LEGS HIGHER!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HOP HOP
CAN'T YOU STRETCH FURTHER?
YOU'RE TOO TENSE!
LOOKS LIKE WE NEED TO START FROM THE BASICS.
HUH HUH
I TOLD YOU THAT ALREADY!
YOU'VE REALLY NEVER PLAYED ANY SPORTS?
WHEN I SEE GUYS LIKE HIM, I START TO HATE GOD.
THE THOUGHT OF LOSING TO THAT DOPE...

GET UP!
I'M JUST PASSIONATE ABOUT INCREASING THE LIMITS OF THE HUMAN BODY!
GET UP, JOE!!
ARGH ...
TOK
UGH ...
YOU FOOL!
SIR..
...DO YOU HATE ME OR SOME-THING?
I'M IMPRESSED.
SWAY
SWAY
HE'S STILL AT IT.
HUH?
TAK
TAK
RYOKUTO
IT'S SUMIRE!
FEINT
TAK TAK TAK
THAT'S ...

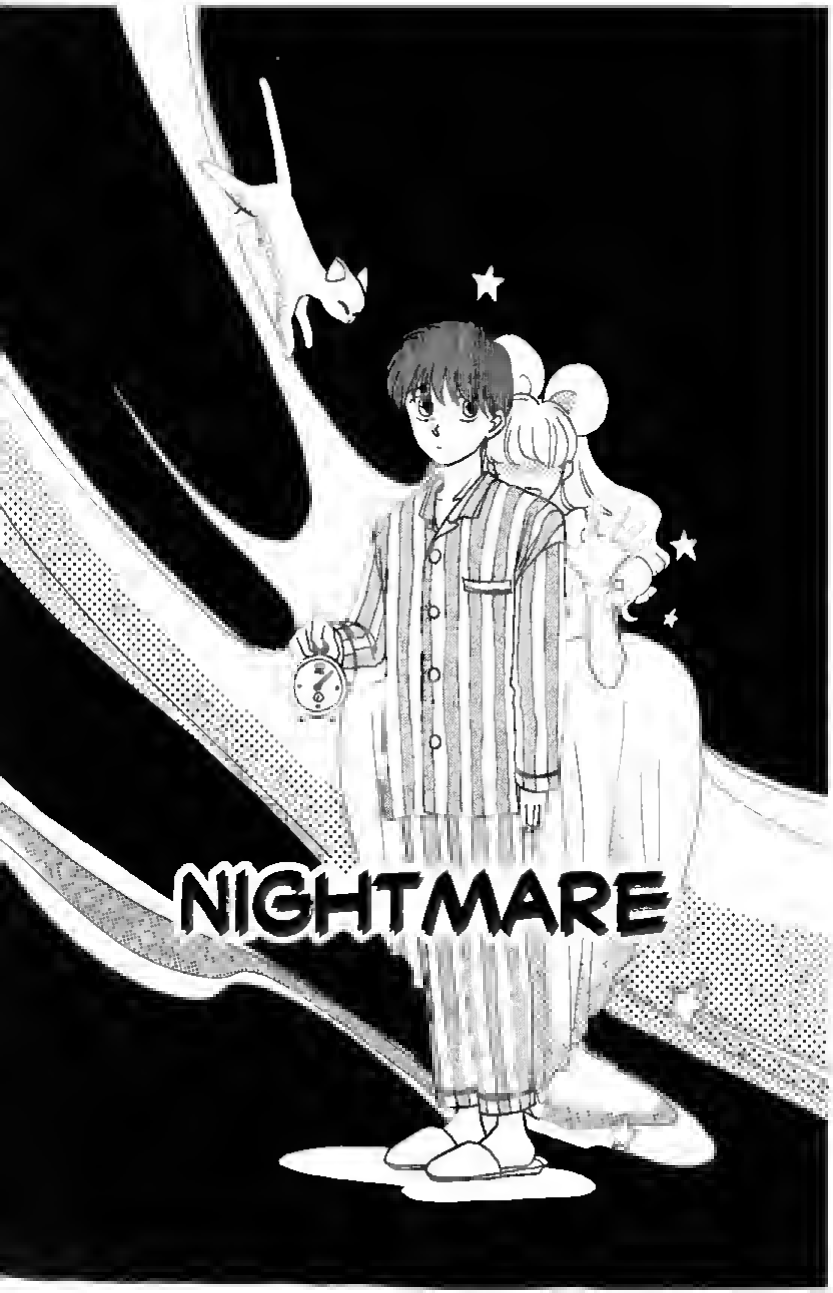
...
I'M SO SORE I CAN'T GET UP!
HUH?
SHUN!
WHAT'S WRONG?
HELP ME!
WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE, HASU-KAWA.
...
ONE, TWO!
ONE, TWO!
YOUR CHIN'S TOO HIGH!
COME ON!
GLAD YOU DECIDED TO SHOW UP! THAT'S A POSITIVE SIGN!
I'M GOING TO WORK YOU HARD!
SLAM BASH
YOU WEAKLING!
TEN MORE!
YOU'RE TOO SLOW!

YOUR BROTHER WAS ALWAYS POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS.
HASU-KAWA ...
YES?
THIS GIRL...THAT GIRL... THE OTHER GIRL I LIKED... THEY ONLY HAD EYES FOR YOUR BROTHER. LOOKING BACK... WHAT DEPRESSING YEARS.
HE DATED GIRLS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS, GIRLS THE REST OF US SECRETLY LIKED!
HE WAS A POOR STUDENT WITH A KID ON HIS HANDS, GOING TO AN ALL-GUYS' SCHOOL, BUT THE GIRLS ALWAYS FLOCKED TO HIM! HE WENT THROUGH WOMEN LIKE WATER!
A FAMILY GRUDGE! I KNEW YOU HAD SOMETHING AGAINST ME!
BUT ...
I BURIED MYSELF IN MY RESEARCH AND FORGOT ABOUT WOMEN FOREVER.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU, HASUKAWA!
GRR
...HE CHOSE NONE OF THOSE GIRLS! HE PICKED ANOTHER BEAUTY AND STARTED A FAMILY, OBLIVIOUS TO MY FEELINGS!

☆ON THEIR WAY TO VISIT SUMIRE'S PARENTS.

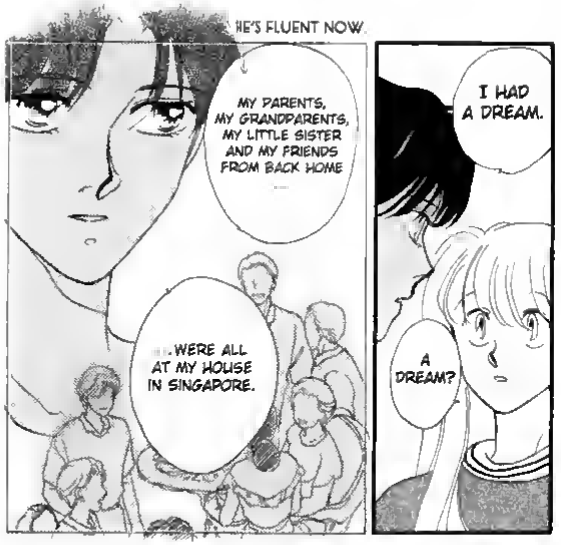
NIGHTMARE

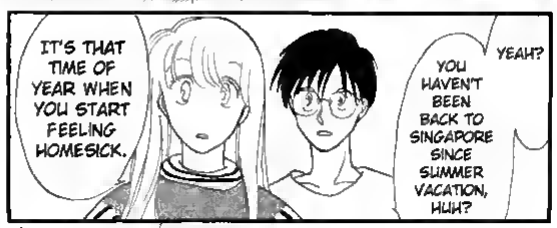
SLOW, CLUMSY TURTLE: THE END

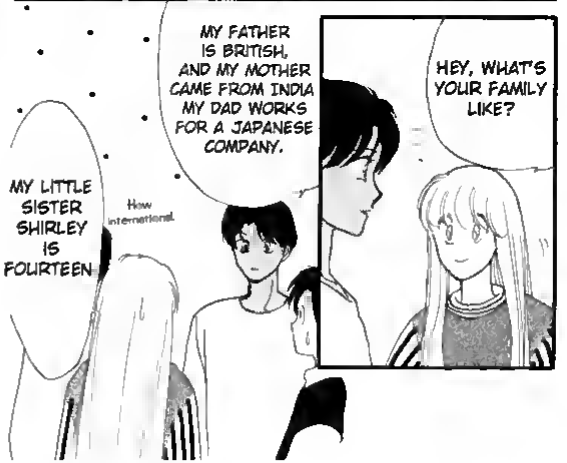

NIGHTMARE

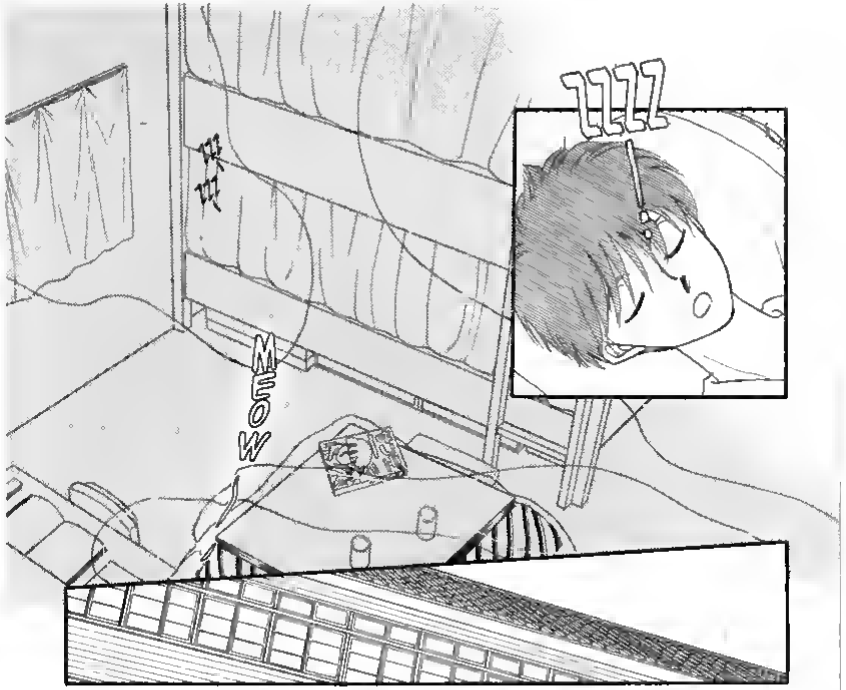
ZZZ—
COME ON. YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
THUD
THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
UGH
...I GET SO SLEEPY DURING CLASS.
Thus
This contract is not valid.
THAT PART'S OKAY, BUT...
THE OTHER NIGHT, YOU SLEPT RIGHT THROUGH AN EARTHQUAKE.
And I sure have an appetite
THANKS TO HIM, I SLEEP REALLY WELL.
IT'S A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE. THAT'S GOOD
NOD
NOD
WHOOPS
AHH!
ZZZZ

YOU'RE SLOWING DOWN!
IDIOT!
SLOW-POKE!
ONE! TWO!
ONE! TWO!
ONE! TWO!
KAZUYA HASUKAWA JOINED THE TRACK TEAM.
I'M A SCIENTIST!
HA HA HA!
I'M NOT INTO SPORTS!
WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF SPORTS-MANSHIP?
WHAT'S WITH YOU, SIR?
ALL YOU DO IS YELL AT ME!
NOW GET UP!
BUT I CAN'T DO THAT IF YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE THE BASICS DOWN!
YOU'RE A TERRIBLE TEST SUBJECT, AND I'M TRYING TO WHIP YOU INTO SHAPE!
IT'S MY DUTY TO FIND NEW WAYS TO EXPONENTIALLY INCREASE THAT POTENTIAL!
THE ATHLETIC WORLD IS SIMPLY THE LABORATORY WHERE I EXPLORE THE LIMITS OF HUMAN POTENTIAL!
GRIP


HE'S FLUENT NOW.
MY PARENTS, MY GRANDPARENTS, MY LITTLE SISTER AND MY FRIENDS FROM BACK HOME
...WERE ALL AT MY HOUSE IN SINGAPORE.
I HAD A DREAM.
A DREAM?

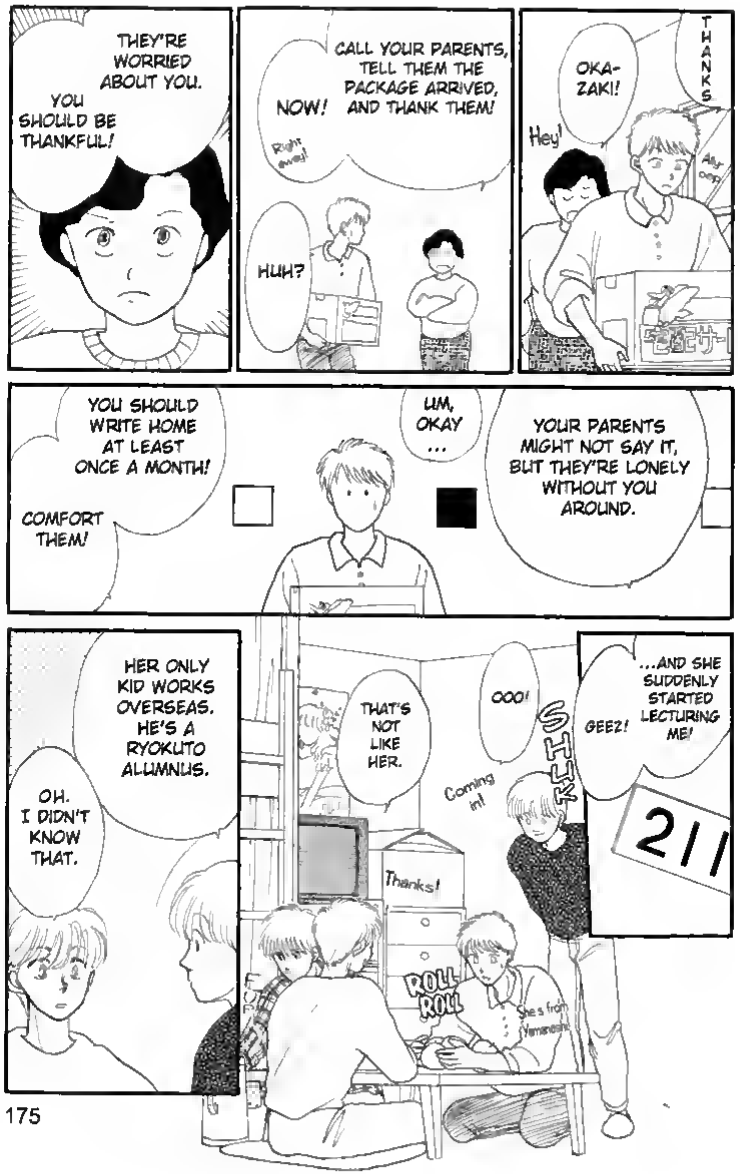

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR WHEN YOU START FEELING HOMESICK.
YEAH?
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN BACK TO SINGAPORE SINCE SUMMER VACATION, HUH?


MY FATHER IS BRITISH, AND MY MOTHER CAME FROM INDIA MY DAD WORKS FOR A JAPANESE COMPANY.
How international.
MY LITTLE SISTER SHIRLEY IS FOURTEEN.
HEY, WHAT'S YOUR FAMILY LIKE?

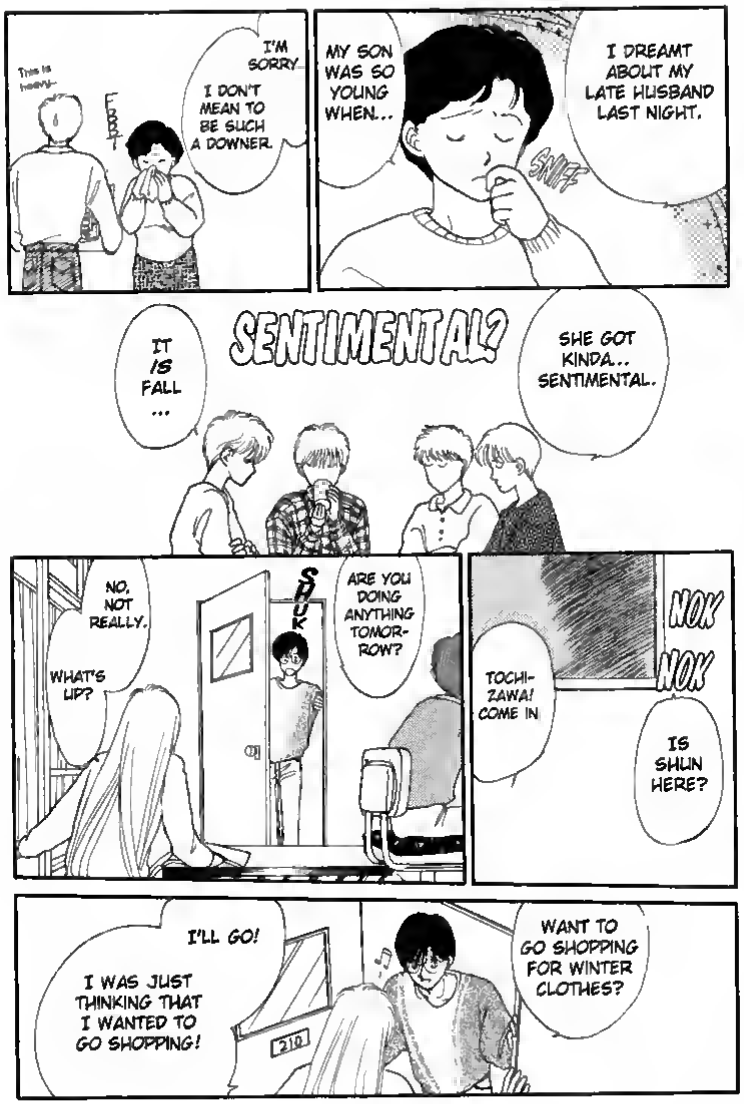

ZZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
MEOW

HE'S BEEN HOMESICK SINCE YESTERDAY.
Sigh.
HOME-SICK?
FRED, IS SOME-THING WRONG?
YOU'RE SIGHING SO HEAVILY.

SHE'S SO CUTE!
WHOA, CAN I KEEP THIS?
OOO
YOU HAVE A SISTER?
DO YOU HAVE A PICTURE? SHOW US!
DOES SHE LOOK LIKE YOU?
SO THIS IS JAPANESE AUTUMN!
YOU DON'T HAVE SEASONS WHERE YOU COME FROM, RIGHT?
Oh!
PAP
IT'S FALL.
BUT IT'S STRANGE.
I NEVER FELT LIKE THIS UNTIL YESTERDAY.
HERE YOU GO.
IT'S FROM YOUR PARENTS.
THUD
THANK YOU!
TOK TOK
OKAZAKI FROM ROOM 312.
YOU HAVE A PACKAGE.

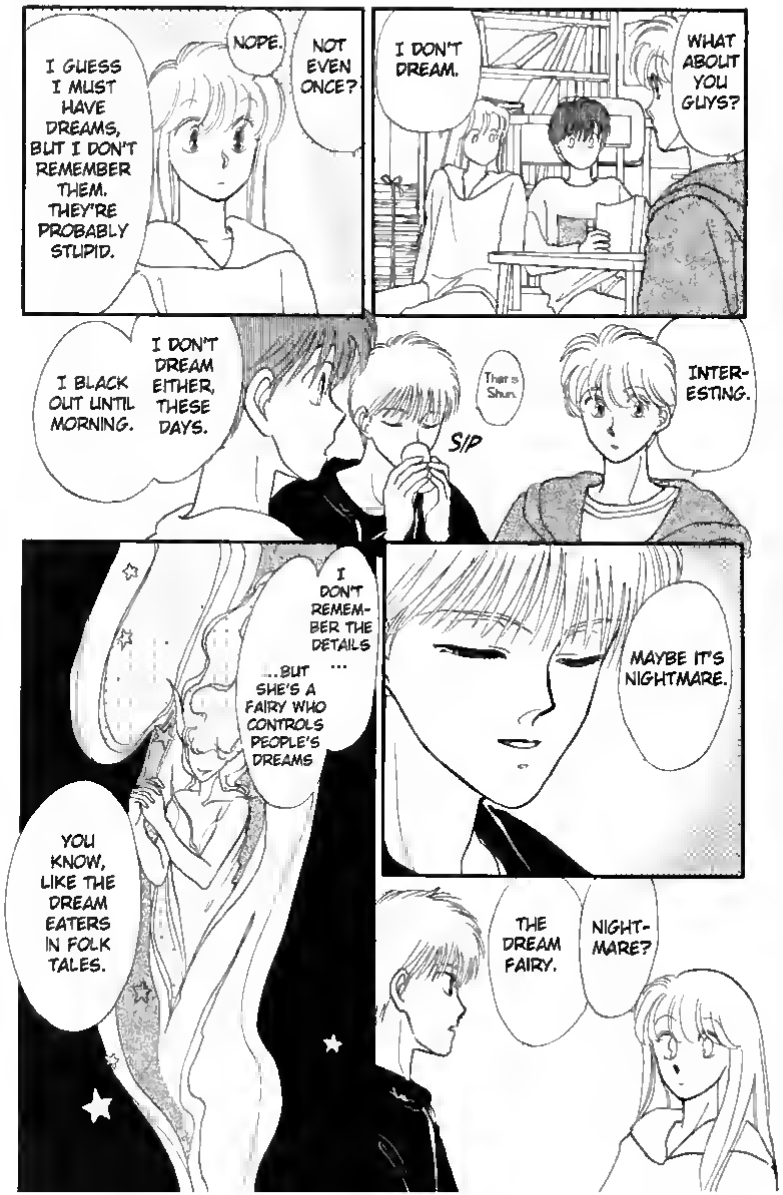

THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL!
CALL YOUR PARENTS, TELL THEM THE PACKAGE ARRIVED, AND THANK THEM!
NOW!
Right away!
HUH?
THANKS
OKA-ZAKI!
Hey!
YOU SHOULD WRITE HOME AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH!
COMFORT THEM!
UM, OKAY ...
YOUR PARENTS MIGHT NOT SAY IT, BUT THEY'RE LONELY WITHOUT YOU AROUND.
HER ONLY KID WORKS OVERSEAS. HE'S A RYOKUTO ALUMNUS.
OH. I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
THAT'S NOT LIKE HER.
OOO!
GEEZ!
...AND SHE SUDDENLY STARTED LECTURING ME!
211
STK STK
Coming in!
Thanks!
ROLL ROLL
She's from Yamanashi.

CHI-
CHI-
CHA
CHA
CAFETERIA
SO...
HEY, SEMPAI!
YOU'RE UP EARLY ON A SUNDAY
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP SO EARLY, NOYAMA?
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NO, NOTHING ...
UH... UM...
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?


This is heavy...
FLOOP
I'M SORRY
I DON'T MEAN TO BE SUCH A DOWNER.
MY SON WAS SO YOUNG WHEN...
SNIF
I DREAMT ABOUT MY LATE HUSBAND LAST NIGHT.
SENTIMENTAL?
IT IS FALL ...
SHE GOT KINDA... SENTIMENTAL.
NO, NOT REALLY.
WHAT'S UP?
SHUK
ARE YOU DOING ANYTHING TOMORROW?
TOCHI-ZAWA! COME IN
NOK NOK
IS SHUN HERE?
I'LL GO!
I WAS JUST THINKING THAT I WANTED TO GO SHOPPING!
210
WANT TO GO SHOPPING FOR WINTER CLOTHES?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO AROUND HIM.
I CAN'T LOOK HIM IN THE EYES.
YUP
SHUN WAS A GIRL...
...IN YOUR DREAM?
YOU GUYS ARE IN THE WAY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I DON'T THINK ABOUT HIM LIKE THAT!
I SWEAR!
SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE
BELIEVE ME!
...TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE MIRACLE WE WITNESSED.
TODAY WE COME ...
SILENCE!
NO PREACHING IN THE DORM!
SEM-PAI!
God is always at your side!

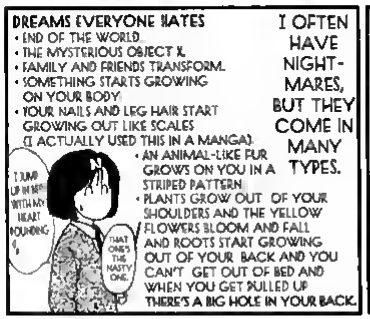
YOU OKAY, TOCHI-ZAWA?
KOFF KOFF KOFF
YOU WERE A REAL GIRL!
Wow!
SPLASH
SEMPAI! I HAD THE WEIRDEST DREAM LAST NIGHT!
WEIRD HOW?
SHUN?
Oh, well.
Sorry.
TAK
IF YOU WERE A GIRL, I'D DEFINITELY ASK YOU OUT!
WHAT A WASTE!
WHAT IS IT?
UHUH
Thanks for waking me up
I really needed that sleep you know
YOU PROMISE YOU WON'T TELL ANYONE?
REST
SORRY, BUT I'M NOT FEELING WELL.
I CAN'T GO TODAY.
MOOOO
HUH?

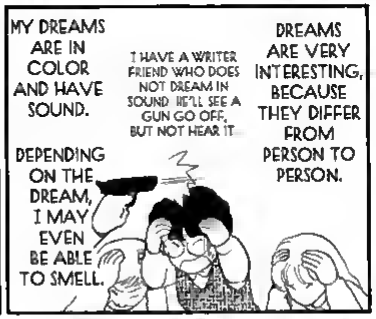

I GUESS I MUST HAVE DREAMS, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER THEM. THEY'RE PROBABLY STUPID.
NOPE.
NOT EVEN ONCE?
I DON'T DREAM.
WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
I BLACK OUT UNTIL MORNING.
I DON'T DREAM EITHER, THESE DAYS.
That is Shun.
SIP
INTER-ESTING.
I DON'T REMEM-BER THE DETAILS ...
...BUT SHE'S A FAIRY WHO CONTROLS PEOPLE'S DREAMS
YOU KNOW, LIKE THE DREAM EATERS IN FOLK TALES.
MAYBE IT'S NIGHTMARE.
THE DREAM FAIRY.
NIGHT-MARE?

SOME-THING'S FUNNY HERE.
THIS MORNING, JESUS WAS STANDING AT THE FOOT OF MY BED!
I THOUGHT SO, TOO!
SOME PEOPLE ARE ACTING OUT OF CHARACTER, GETTING ALL EMOTIONAL.
I'M HEARING ALL THESE STORIES ABOUT WEIRD DREAMS.
NOPE.
YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED ANYTHING AT SCHOOL, HAVE YOU?
HMM ...
211
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE FOOD.
You have no right to say that!
WHATEVER IT IS, IT GOT THE MANAGER. IT'S ONLY HAPPENING TO PEOPLE IN THIS DORM.

IS THAT ME?
HUH?
I GET IT!
SHO AND I ARE TWINS!
SHO?
ME...
MOM...
NO!
OF COURSE WE'RE NOT!
HAG

WELCOME TO MY OFFICE
I'M YUKIE NASU, NIGHTMARE RESEARCHER.
GREETINGS, EVERYONE.
DO YOU DREAM IN COLOR? HOW ABOUT SOUND?


DREAMS EVERYONE HATES
• END OF THE WORLD.
• THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECT X.
• FAMILY AND FRIENDS TRANSFORM.
• SOMETHING STARTS GROWING ON YOUR BODY.
• YOUR NAILS AND LEG HAIR START GROWING OUT LIKE SCALES (I ACTUALLY USED THIS IN A MANGA).
• AN ANIMAL-LIKE FUR GROWS ON YOU IN A STRIPED PATTERN.
• PLANTS GROW OUT OF YOUR SHOULDERS AND THE YELLOW FLOWERS BLOOM AND FALL AND ROOTS START GROWING OUT OF YOUR BACK AND YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF BED AND WHEN YOU GET PULLED UP THERE'S A BIG HOLE IN YOUR BACK.
I OFTEN HAVE NIGHT-MARES, BUT THEY COME IN MANY TYPES.
I JUMP UP IN BED WITH MY HEART POUNDING.
THAT ONE'S THE NASTY ONE.


MY DREAMS ARE IN COLOR AND HAVE SOUND.
I HAVE A WRITER FRIEND WHO DOES NOT DREAM IN SOUND. HE'LL SEE A GUN GO OFF, BUT NOT HEAR IT.
DREAMS ARE VERY INTERESTING, BECAUSE THEY DIFFER FROM PERSON TO PERSON.
DEPENDING ON THE DREAM, I MAY EVEN BE ABLE TO SMELL.

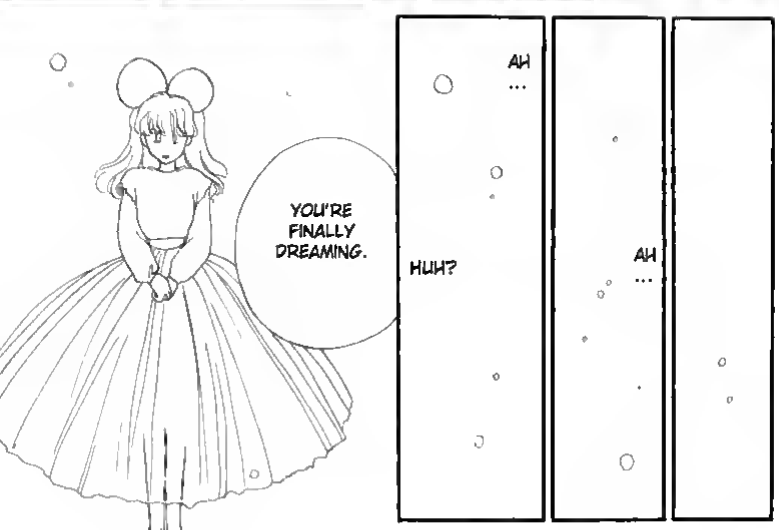
IF YOU'RE A DREAM ANALYST, PLEASE TELL ME WHAT THIS MEANS.
• IN COLOR
• FISHY
• COLD
...AND THERE WAS A GIANT CHAMBERED NAUTILUS NEXT TO MY HEAD!

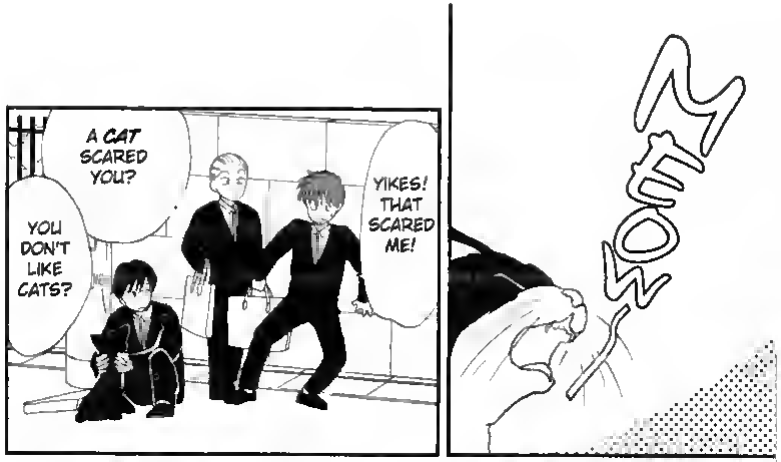
I READ DREAM BOOKS, BUT MY DREAMS DON'T FIT THE PATTERNS, SO I'M A BIT LOST. ON ANOTHER NOTE, THE SHORTEST DREAM THAT ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED ME WAS...
I WOKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

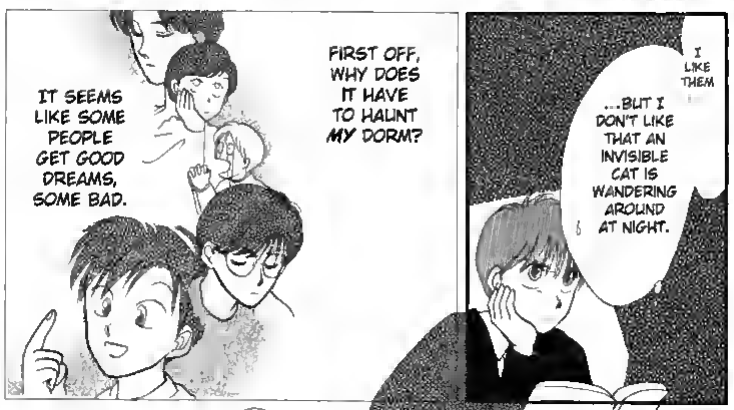
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
CAN THAT REALLY HAPPEN?
IT HASN'T DONE ANY REAL DAMAGE, BUT I DON'T LIKE IT.
LIKE SOMETHING SLIPPING AWAY AND OUT THE DOOR.
I FELT THAT, TOO.
LIKE SOMETHING LEAVING MY HEAD...
IT WAS ...
...I FELT THE HIND LEGS OF A SMALL ANIMAL.
AH!
SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY MEDDLING WITH OUR DREAMS.
WHEN I GRABBED IT...
A CAT?

I ALMOST GOT IT.
YOU TOO, SHINOBU?
MITSURU! ARE YOU AWAKE?
AS I WAS WAKING UP, I FELT LIKE SOMETHING WAS WRIGGLING AWAY, SO I REACHED OUT AND GRABBED IT...
THEN THIS.
It's got some nerve
LOOK.
GOT WHAT?
SEEMS LIKE...
BIRDS OF A FEATHER ...
...THERE'S SOMETHING BAD AROUND HERE.
YEAH, I GUESS I SHOULD.
YOU SHOULD PUT YOUR TALENT TO USE.
SHINOBU?
How about you operate the temple and I'll be a medium in the back room?

HEY! YOU GOT IT? THANKS!
I'LL COME GET IT! WHERE ARE YOU?
DING-DONG
IKEDA. YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL.
I PASSED OUT...

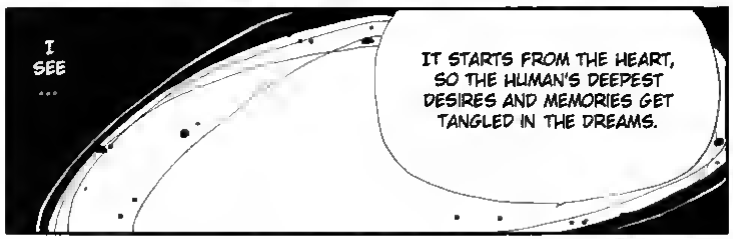

YOU'RE FINALLY DREAMING.
HUH?
AH...
AH...

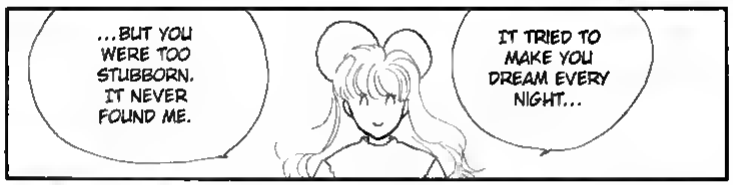

A CAT SCARED YOU?
YOU DON'T LIKE CATS?
YIKES! THAT SCARED ME!
SHOUT

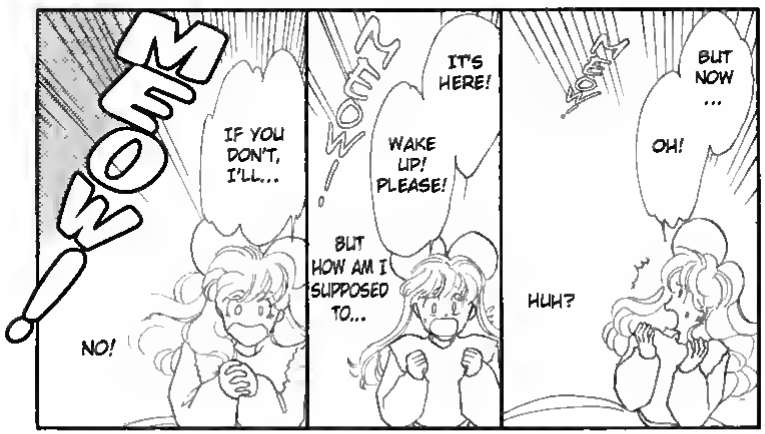

IT SEEMS LIKE SOME PEOPLE GET GOOD DREAMS, SOME BAD.
FIRST OFF, WHY DOES IT HAVE TO HAUNT MY DORM?
I LIKE THEM
...BUT I DON'T LIKE THAT AN INVISIBLE CAT IS WANDERING AROUND AT NIGHT.

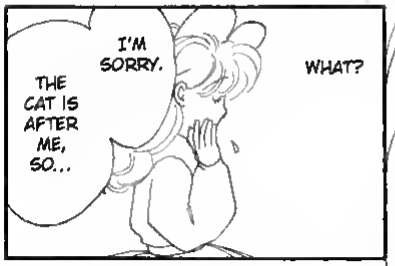
HEY!
HASU-KAWA!
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF...
I SHOULD'VE ASKED WHAT KINDS OF DREAMS MITSURU AND SHINOBU GOT!
Hey!
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF DREAM I'LL SEE IF THE NIGHTMARE FAIRY VISITS ME...

WHEN IT CAN'T FIND ME, IT DRAGS THE DREAM OUT AND TEARS IT UP.
AH...
MEOW
IF I GET CAUGHT, I'LL BE EATEN ALONG WITH THE DREAM.
IT'S SNIFFED ME OUT, AND NOW IT'S LOOKING IN EVERYONE'S DREAMS FOR ME.

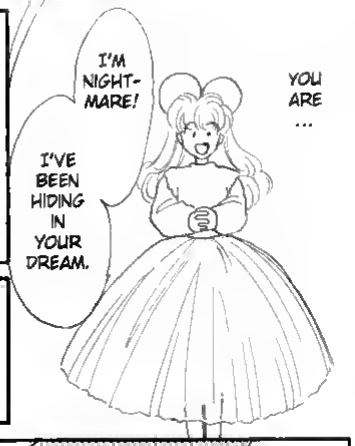

I SEE ...
IT STARTS FROM THE HEART, SO THE HUMAN'S DEEPEST DESIRES AND MEMORIES GET TANGLED IN THE DREAMS.


...BUT YOU WERE TOO STUBBORN. IT NEVER FOUND ME.
IT TRIED TO MAKE YOU DREAM EVERY NIGHT...


WOMM!
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL...
NO!
WOMM!
IT'S HERE!
WAKE UP! PLEASE!
BUT HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO...
WOMM!
BUT NOW ...
OH!
HUH?

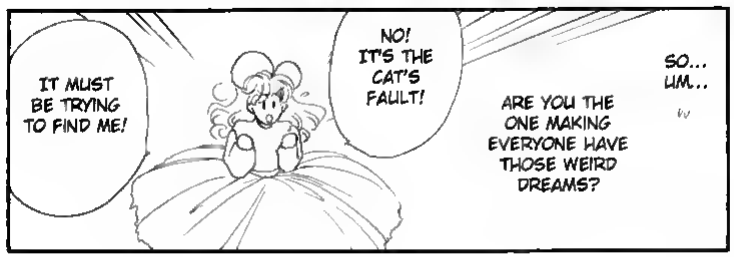

I'M SORRY.
THE CAT IS AFTER ME, SO...
WHAT?

RIGHT.
THE CAT.
THE CAT?


I'M NIGHT-MARE!
I'VE BEEN HIDING IN YOUR DREAM.
YOU ARE ...

YOU SLEPT WITHOUT DREAMING EVERY NIGHT, SO I THOUGHT THE CAT WOULDN'T FIND ME HERE.
HUH? WAIT A MINUTE...

WE LIVE IN DREAMS ...
...AND CATS EAT THE DREAMS WE LIVE IN.


IT MUST BE TRYING TO FIND ME!
NO! IT'S THE CAT'S FAULT!
ARE YOU THE ONE MAKING EVERYONE HAVE THOSE WEIRD DREAMS?
SO... UM...

FU P
MOTO!
I NEVER THOUGHT IT'D WORK.
HOW D'YA LIKE THE TASTE OF THIS CHARM FROM THE MAISON MAGIC IN HARAJUKU?
I CAN FINALLY GO HOME NOW!
THANK GOODNESS!
YOU GUYS WERE THE LAST ONES WHO HADN'T HAD ANY WEIRD DREAMS...
...SO WE THOUGHT IT'D PROBABLY APPEAR HERE TONIGHT.
Who?
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, SEMPAI?
PIP
WUP

AAAAA!
EEEK!
FINALLY GOT YOU, YOU MONSTER!
HE CAN'T SEE IT.
IT'S ON TOP OF HASU-KAWA'S HEAD.
FWP

LADDER TO HEAVEN

HENCE THE SENTIMENTAL DAYS AT GREENWOOD CAME TO AN END.
IT'S NOT!
Maybe that's your type
Sounds like you're into younger chicks.
Are you sure it wasn't just a dream?
THE ONLY GUY WHO DIDN'T DREAM WAS THE ONE WHO WAS POSSESSED.
WHATEVER IT WAS, IT WAS AN ANNOYANCE.
THAT'S WHY THERE WERE BOTH GOOD AND BAD DREAMS, DEPENDING ON THE PERSON.
SO ...
...THE FEELINGS AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERYONE'S HEART CAME OUT AS DREAMS.
THIS IS STUPID.
I FORGOT IT.
WELL? WHAT DID YOU DREAM?
WAS IT A GOOD DREAM?
...

LADDER TO HEAVEN

IN THE THREE MONTHS AFTER HASUKAWA JOINED THE TRACK TEAM, HE BUILT UP HIS STRENGTH.
HE WASN'T AS WEAK AS HE USED TO BE.
See ya.
THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN GO AFTER GIRLS! GOT IT?
I'LL SPEND MY TIME HOWEVER I WANT!
AHA!
Are you telling your coach you're getting into a relationship?
I won't allow it!
SEEMS HE'S UNSURE ABOUT HIS FEELINGS.
WHAT'S WRONG?
I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT MIYA, JUST LIKE EVERYONE WANTED ME TO.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M STILL THINKING ABOUT BUTTING INTO HER RELATIONSHIP.

HE'S PERSISTENT.
I KNEW THAT, BUT GEEZ.
HE HASN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT HER AT ALL!
YIPES
HOW CAN I POSSIBLY FACE MIYA AND HER BOYFRIEND LIKE THIS?
STILL ...
AAAA!
THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT BEING POOR AND HAVING DANDRUFF.
LOOK AT EVERYONE ELSE.
...YOU CAN SAY HE'S LUCKY FOR JUST BEING WORRIED ABOUT LOVE.
You think?
WE WON'T GET MANY CHANCES TO MEET GIRLS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR.
Then was a horror flick.
Shinobu's Cinderella was scary.
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL JUST ENDED.

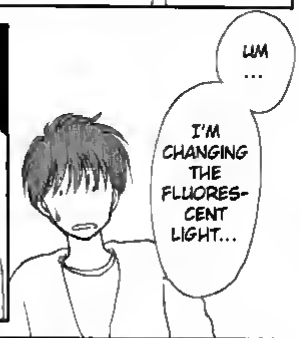
YAWN
THERE'S A LADDER IN THE STORAGE ROOM CAN YOU CHANGE IT?
MY BACK HAS BEEN KILLING ME TODAY.
RUH
THE BULB WENT OUT.
HUH? IT'S DARK!
OKAY ...
KLIK
GOT IT.
SHE REALLY ISN'T WORKING MUCH.
THAT WOMAN ...
GWAK
WHOA!
!
ARGH!
KA-LLAM!
GOOD ...

STOP SCREAMING FROM THE HALLWAY WINDOWS!
I'll get complaints!
HEY! BOYS!
DOWN WITH GIRLS!
WE HATE WOMEN!
PHOOEY!
HALF THE POPULATION OF JAPAN IS SUPPOSED TO BE FEMALE! WHERE ARE THEY?
HYOOOO
WINTER IN A GUYS' DORM IS RATHER DEPRESSING.
NATURALLY.
ALONE AGAIN.
HYUU...
ATCHOO!
IT'S GETTING CHILLY AGAIN.
I HATE TAKING HEAD COUNTS IN THE WINTER.
So cold.
We're here.
Yamashita, Eguchi.
...IS PROBABLY BECAUSE ALL THAT WOMANLESS ANGST HAS SEEPED INTO THE BUILDING.
I GET IT. THE REASON SO MANY WEIRD THINGS HAPPEN HERE...
TOK TOK TOK

UM ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WHAT THE...
TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

OH.
I SEE ...

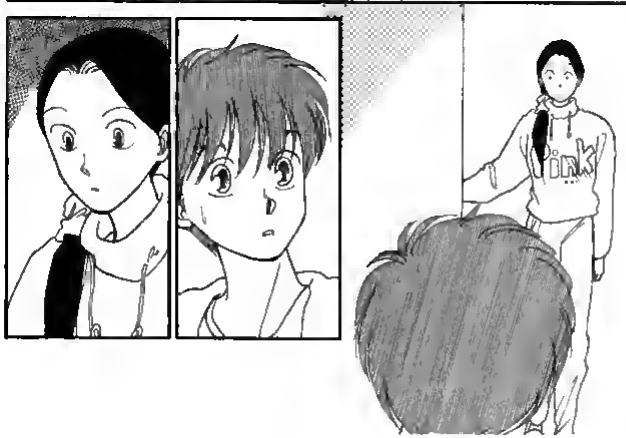

UM ...
I'M CHANGING THE FLUORES-CENT LIGHT...

PUNT
PUNT
PUNT

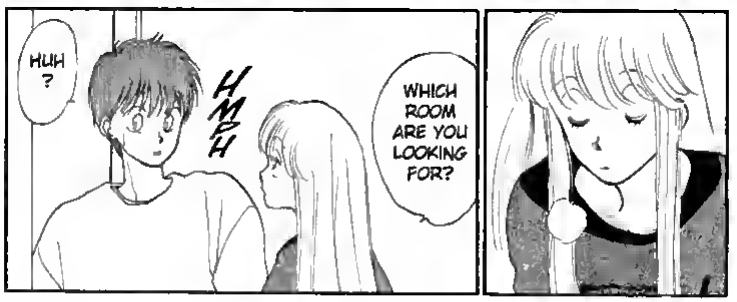
DAKKA DAKKA
WHO WAS THAT?
WHAT IDIOT FROM WHICH ROOM SMUGGLED HER IN?

STARE
STARE

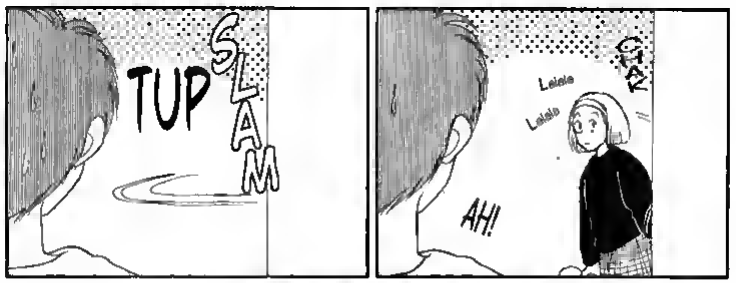
YOINK
CRASH
"YOINK" ?
Owww
OH, JUST A LITTLE...
ARE YOU OKAY?



HUH!
FIND THE MISTAKES. CAN YOU FIND THE TEN THINGS DIFFERENT FROM THEIR USUAL ROOM?


HUH?
HMPH
WHICH ROOM ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

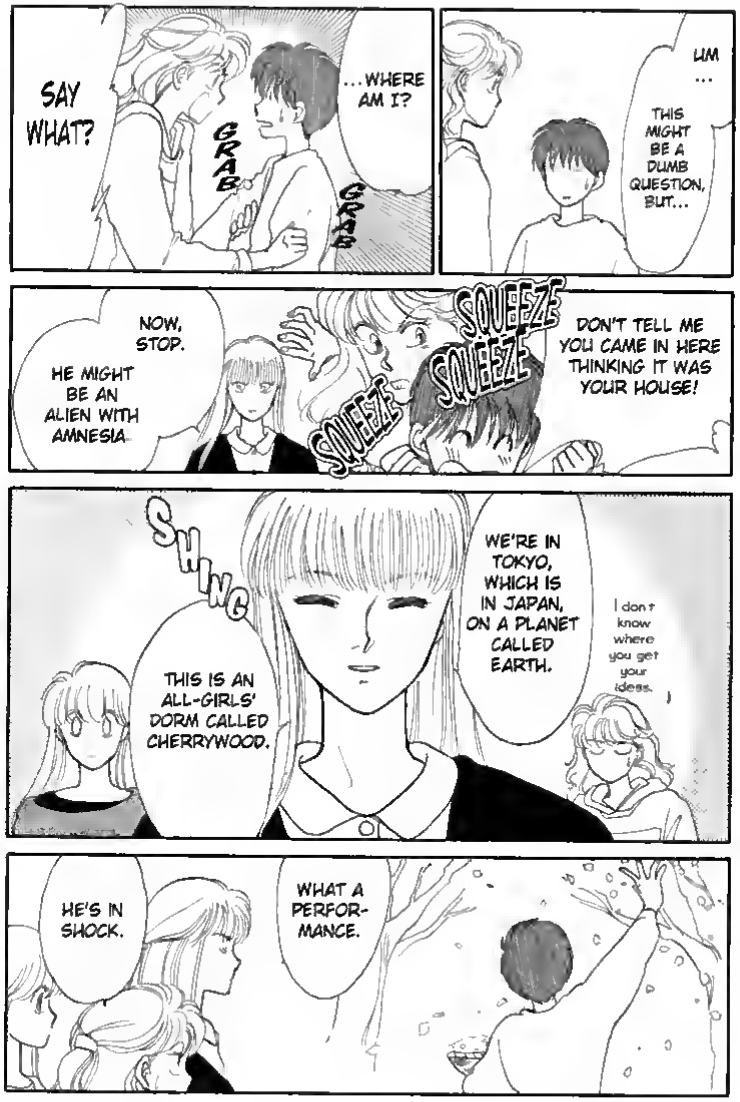
SHOULD I WARN THEM?
THIS IS A BOYS' DORM, AFTER ALL.
IF THEY'RE IN ROOM 316, IT'S THOSE GUYS.
TOK TOK
WHY DO I HAVE TO ACT LIKE I'M SNEAKING AROUND?
STORAGE ROOM
SLAM


TUP
SLAM
Leiele
Leiele
CLAP
AH!

MAYBE I SET A BAD EXAMPLE, BRINGING MIYA IN.
I knew it was a bad idea, but.
I'M BACK.
CHAK
HAVE THEY ALL BEEN DOING THIS, ALL ALONG?
IT CAN'T BE!
WHOA
214

COME QUICK!
SEMPAI!!!
THUD
WOULD THEY LET GIRLS INTO THE DORM JUST TO MESS WITH ME? IT'S 11:00 AT NIGHT...
SNEAK
A HOT CHICK!
THAT'S REAL LIFE IN A GIRLS' DORM!
WEARING CRAPPY CLOTHES ...
TOK TOK
WHERE'S THE PERVERT?
GROW-UP
BAM
SO YOU'RE THE PERVERT?
HUH? THAT FACE ...
HUH?

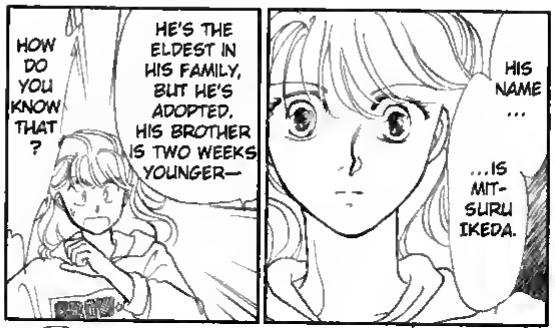
DON'T WALK AROUND IN THE OPEN.
THIS IS A GIRLS' DORM, YOU KNOW.
WHAT?
THIS IS THE DORM HEAD'S ROOM.
IF SHE CATCHES YOU, YOU'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE!
NOW GO!
I WON'T FALL FOR IT A THIRD TIME!
I KNOW WHAT YOU GUYS ARE UP TO! EVERYONE'S TRYING TO TRICK ME AGAIN!
WAIT A MINUTE, SHUN!
HUH?
AHA!
UM
BUT WAIT ...
YOU GUYS CHANGED THE ROOM AROUND WHILE I WAS GONE!


SAY WHAT?
GRAB
...WHERE AM I?
GRAB
UM ...
THIS MIGHT BE A DUMB QUESTION, BUT...
NOW, STOP.
HE MIGHT BE AN ALIEN WITH AMNESIA.
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
DON'T TELL ME YOU CAME IN HERE THINKING IT WAS YOUR HOUSE!
SHING
THIS IS AN ALL-GIRLS' DORM CALLED CHERRYWOOD.
WE'RE IN TOKYO, WHICH IS IN JAPAN, ON A PLANET CALLED EARTH.
I don't know where you get your ideas.
HE'S IN SHOCK.
WHAT A PERFOR-MANCE.

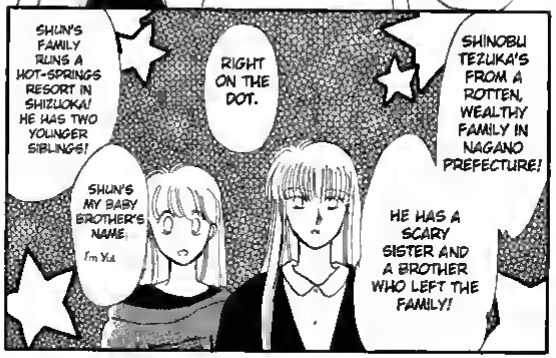
It's a pervert
What's going on?
CLUTCH CLUTCH
WHAT!?
YOU FOOL! YOU'RE STILL YOUNG! DON'T THROW YOUR LIFE AWAY!
WHY DID YOU SNEAK IN HERE? TELL ME!
GRP
HOLD ON, MICHIRU.
SHAKE SHAKE
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
SHINOBU?
A TRAMP LIKE YOU MIGHT BE OKAY WITH LETTING A DERELICT SLEEP OVER ...
...BUT THIS DORM SHOULD BE KEPT CLEAN AND INNOCENT FOR THE GOOD GIRLS!
OH, HOW RUDE!
Hmph!
MICHIRU?
HE LOOKS SCARED.
SEE?
LIKE A LOST FOX CUB.
SHINOBU!
Please stop
Look out!
LET'S NAME HIM TETO JUNIOR.

I'M IN THE RIGHT PLACE!
IT'S DEFINITELY GREENWOOD!
Gosh, I'm tired.
THIS IS CHERRY-WOOD!
GREEN-WOOD?
HUFF
HUFF
AND SHUN'S... EXACTLY THE SAME.
Act like am, too.
THEY LOOK SO MUCH LIKE THEM!
THESE TWO ...
IT CAN'T BE... IT CAN'T BE...
Nope
this is a sequel to the last chapter?
DOES THAT MEAN ...
WHAT A FREAK.
Waaa! I'm in a strange place!
I want to go home!
YES! WHEN HASUKAWA FELL OFF THE LADDER, HE DROPPED INTO A PARALLEL UNIVERSE!
IT'S TRUE!
IF I SAY SO.

IT CAN'T BE!
HEY, WAIT!
Why...
IT CAN'T BE!
NO WAY!
DAK
DASH
CAN'T
BE!

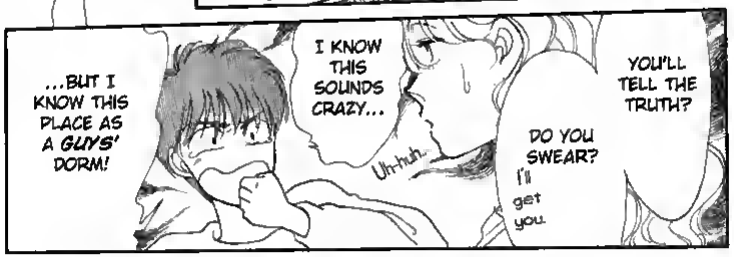

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT ?
HE'S THE ELDEST IN HIS FAMILY, BUT HE'S ADOPTED. HIS BROTHER IS TWO WEEKS YOUNGER—
HIS NAME ...
...IS MITSURU IKEDA.

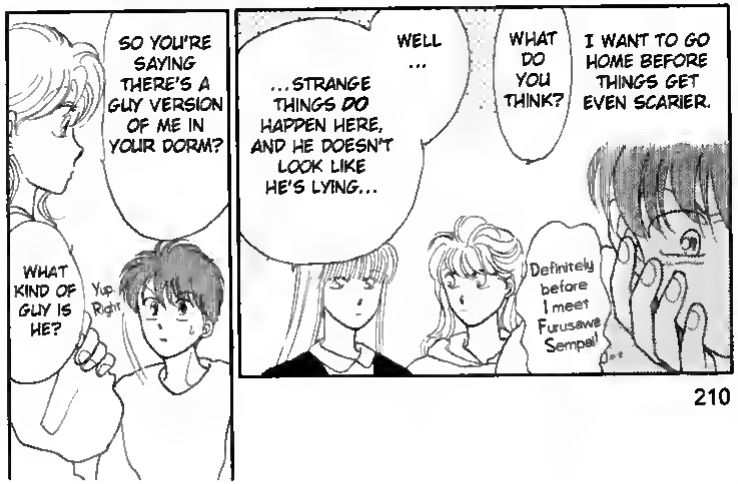
THAT'S EXACTLY THE SAME AS HER.
HIS STOMACH AND ATTITUDE ARE NOT HUMAN, AND HIS FACE IS SOME KIND OF INDESTRUCTIBLE MASK...


SHUN'S FAMILY RUNS A HOT-SPRINGS RESORT IN SHIZUOKA! HE HAS TWO YOUNGER SIBLINGS!
RIGHT ON THE DOT.
SHINOBU TEZUKA'S FROM A ROTTEN, WEALTHY FAMILY IN NAGANO PREFECTURE!
SHUN'S MY BABY BROTHER'S NAME.
I'm Yuta
HE HAS A SCARY SISTER AND A BROTHER WHO LEFT THE FAMILY!

There was a mysterious alien and a Mike Shinoda!
And a lesbian high school girl.
We saw ghosts in a hotel on the lake!
Valentine's Day is a fiasco every year!
You've been in a television commercial!
You have an anemic pop star for a friend!

...
I'M SURE YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME IF I TELL YOU...
...BUT ...
...SO STOP CRYING AND TELL US.
WE'LL LISTEN TO YOU ...
SOB SOB
HUH.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE SOME ISSUES.
ALL THE GUYS ARE GIRLS!

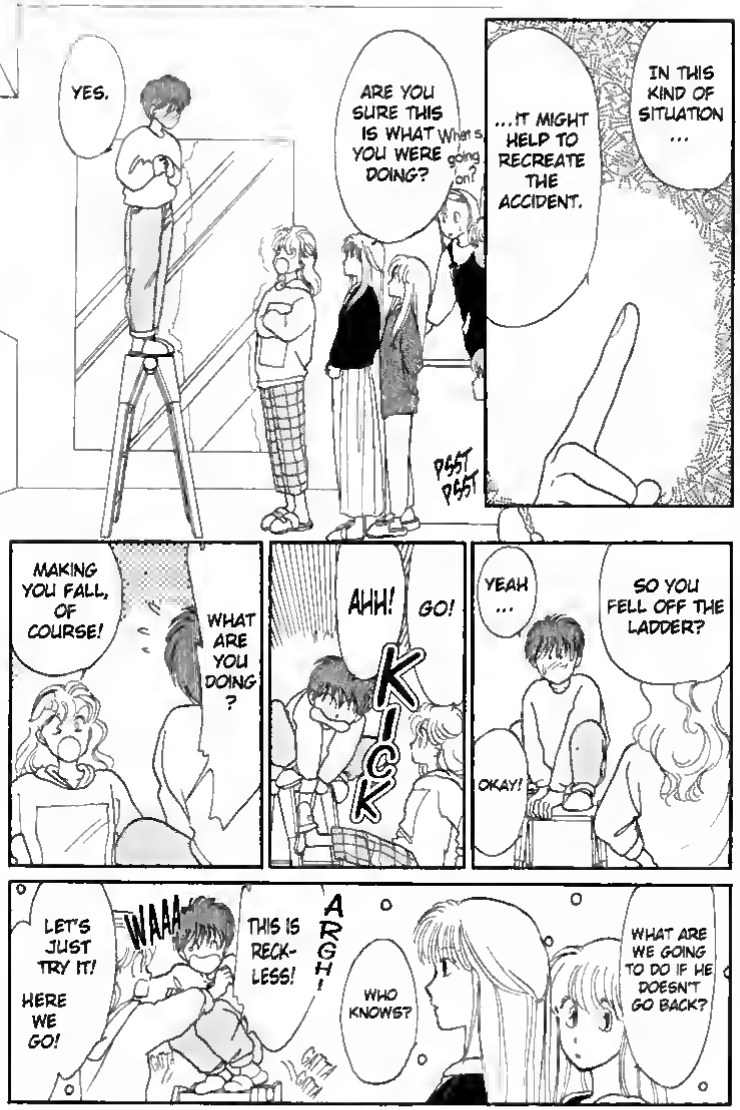

...BUT I KNOW THIS PLACE AS A GUYS' DORM!
I KNOW THIS SOUNDS CRAZY...
Uh-huh.
DO YOU SWEAR? I'll get you.
YOU'LL TELL THE TRUTH?


SO YOU'RE SAYING THERE'S A GUY VERSION OF ME IN YOUR DORM?
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE?
Yup. Right.
...STRANGE THINGS DO HAPPEN HERE, AND HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S LYING...
WELL ...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I WANT TO GO HOME BEFORE THINGS GET EVEN SCARIER.
Definitely before I meet Furusawa Sempai!

AAAA!
PANIC PANIC
I'M SURE IT'LL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT, SOMEHOW.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO, SO THERE'S NO POINT IN PANICKING.
What do you want from us?
Here
Oh. Thanks.
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE! I HAVE TO GET BACK!
Settle down.
Let's have some tea.
I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM. I'M SURE HE'S HANDSOME
I WONDER WHAT THE GUY VERSION OF YOU LOOKS LIKE.
ARGH
MAKES SO MUCH SENSE
OH HO HO
WELL?
CHAK
Say what?
I'm scared
FIRST OF ALL, YOU'RE IN A GIRLS' DORM! YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY!
I CAN'T FIND HER ANYWHERE.
MISSING?
SHE'S MISSING.
UM ...
CHAK
I DON'T GET IT.
SHE SHOULD BE DONE TAKING HEAD COUNT AND CHANGING THE FLUORESCENT LIGHT...

...HASU-KAWA?
HUH?
YEAH, I AM...
HE KNOWS WAY TOO MUCH. HE'S GOT TO HAVE BEEN THERE.
WAIT.
ARE YOU ...
IF MITSURU AND THE OTHERS ARE HERE, I GUESS I MUST HAVE AN ANALOGUE TOO...
BY THE WAY, SHE'S LATE.
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER!
THAT'S IT!
NO WONDER I THOUGHT I'D SEEN YOU BEFORE!
IT MAKES SO MUCH SENSE!
YOU LOOK LIKE HASU-KAWA!
SHE HASN'T FINISHED TAKING HEAD COUNT?
LET'S LINE THEM UP AND TAKE A PICTURE!
I'LL GO GET HER!
THE FEMALE ME...

...BOTH HASUKAWAS WERE DOING THE SAME THING?
...
WAIT A MINUTE.
COULD IT BE...
OH ...
I hear it is weird over there!
THIS IS BAD! SUKA-CHAN HAS NO EXPERIENCE WITH GUYS!
NO! SHE COULD BE ALL ALONE IN A GUYS' DORM!
LET'S SEE.
THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING! BUT HOW?
SHE MUST HAVE SWITCHED WITH YOU!
GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM!


YES.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE DOING?
What's going on?
...IT MIGHT HELP TO RECREATE THE ACCIDENT.
IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION ...
PSST PSST
MAKING YOU FALL, OF COURSE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?
AHH!
GO!
KICK
YEAH ...
SO YOU FELL OFF THE LADDER?
OKAY!
LET'S JUST TRY IT!
HERE WE GO!
WAAH
THIS IS RECK-LESS!
ARGH!
WHO KNOWS?
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO IF HE DOESN'T GO BACK?

AUGH!
BANG
OW!
GOOD...
YOU MET THEM IN A STRANGE PLACE, TOO...
GOOD.
WHA ...
ARE YOU OKAY? ARE YOU THINKING STRAIGHT?
What's going on?
IT'S HASH-KAWA!
IT'S HIM!
GOOD.

YIKES!
HEY!!
WHAT ARE YOU GIRLS DOING?
AH—
AH—
AH...
...!
AH...
I SEE ...
YOU, TOO...

Translation Notes

Page 10 The student is reciting a poem by a Chinese poet known in Japan as Tobeku This class teaches classical Japanese literature which means learning both Chinese and classical Japanese Classical Japanese is very different from modern Japanese and is effectively a separate language hence the students struggles with their readings throughout this chapter

Page 12 *Shichigon zekku* is a form of poetry consisting of four lines with seven *kanji* in each line.

Page 47 The "swirly fishcakes" are *narutomaki* which have a distinctive pink spiral pattern and are typically used as a garnish in noodle dishes Both *udon* noodles and beef bowls (barbecued beef in a bowl with rice) are common fast food in Japan—appropriate for students, but hardly fit for a prince

Page 56 *Yakisoba* are stir-fried noodles *Takoyaki* are fried balls of chopped octopus *Natto* are fermented soybeans *Oden* is a stewlike dish made by simmering a miscellany of foods in broth *Monjya* is a type of *okonomiyaki* a sort of pancake/pizza All of the foods Mitsuru names are cheap eats in Japan often available at fast-food franchises or sidewalk stands

Page 56 *Doujinshi,* or fan-comics are self-published manga usually featuring established characters from manga anime or other media It s a safe bet that Mitsuru and Shinobu have starred in many real-life *doujinshi* probably in compromising positions

Page 66 "Handsome Masked Knight Pwatolin" is a takeoff on *Bishojo Kamen Powatorin* (Beautiful Masked Knight Powatorin) a manga/anime series not unlike *Sailor Moon* "Let us fight as long as we have love!" is a catchphrase from the series

Page 144 Shiro's offer recalls the Japanese folktale "Ureshima Taro" in which Taro the fisherman buys a turtle from some children to stop them from torturing it In return the turtle takes Taro to a palace beneath the sea Inasmuch as 100 yen is worth slightly less than one U S dollar Shiro isn't exactly bankrupting himself with this purchase

Page 150 Candies was an all-girl pop group in the 1980s that tried and failed, to make it big outside of Japan

Page 153 Ozma Armstrong a k a the Baseball Robot, is a character in the classic baseball manga *Kyojin no Hoshi* (Star of the Giants) Ozma is human but plays with the precision of a machine

Page 157 Japanese folklore holds that, when you sneeze, it means someone is talking about you

Page 163 "Get up Joe!" is a typical line from *Ashita no Joe* (Joe of Tomorrow) one of the most beloved of all sports manga Joe a boxer is routinely put through levels of punishment Hasukawa can hardly imagine

Page 181 *Baku* or dream-eaters are creatures in Chinese and Japanese folklore Usually benevolent, they eat nightmares sometimes leaving good luck behind

Page 206 Teto is the name of Nausicaa s foxlike pet in the classic Hayao Miyazaki manga and anime *Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind*

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